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The Historical Record

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

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The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND CONTIGUOUS TERRITORY

WITH

NOTES AND QUERIES

BIOGRAPHICAL, ANTIQUARIAN, GENEALOGICAL



EDITED BY F. C. JOHNSON.

v. 6
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WILKES-BARRE, PA.

Press of The Wilkes-Barre Record

1897.

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The Historical Record

VOL. VI.

NO. I

117 YEARS AGO.

Recalling the Battle and Massacre of Wyoming.

**The Exercises at the Monument At-
tended by an Even Larger Throng
Than Usual—Well Known Partici-
pants in the Order of the Day.**

Daily Record, July 4, 1895.

Persons who used to predict that the commemorative exercises at Wyoming Monument would last only a few years proved themselves neither prophets nor the sons of prophets. The gatherings on the third of July have gone on waxing greater each year until the seating capacity will have to be increased and the big canvass will have to be enlarged next year. The gathering was a large and representative one. The weather was perfect. The monument was beautifully decorated with flowers sent by Benjamin Dorrance. The Daughters of the American Revolution were present in a body, wearing the insignia of their office, as were the Colonial Dames and the Sons of the Revolution.

The wooden door on the monument has been replaced by a handsome bronze door, about 6 feet by 3, the gift of Mrs. Ellen A. Law of Pittston, one of the charter members of the Wyoming Monumental Association, the organization in which the title of the site is vested. The door bore a suitable inscription and was much admired.

The Ninth Regiment Band was present in full force, and Professor Alexander's men delighted the assemblage with its patriotic and classic selections, interspersed throughout the program.

President Calvin Parsons, in his informal preliminary remarks, asked any present who attended the laying of the corner stone sixty

years ago to rise. Those who responded were William Dickover, Edward S. Loop, Mrs. Mary F. Pfouts, Calvin Parsons. One or two others said they had relatives at home who had been present. George H. Welles of Wyalusing, not present, sent a letter referring to his having been at the corner stone laying.

A. Clark Sisson of La Plume, who bears a striking likeness to Horace Greeley, was called on for a song and gave "The Sword of Bunker Hill" so pleasingly that the assemblage insisted on his singing again. He then gave a selection by Bayard Taylor entitled "Gen. Scott and Corporal Johnson." Mr. Sisson is a believer in patriotic songs and related the visit of some young American singers abroad who were called on for some of their national songs and did not know a single one. Mr. Sisson is well advanced in years, but his robust vocalism was a strong feature of the day. Announcement was made by Benjamin Dorrance of the following deaths in the membership since the meeting a year ago:

Aug. 21, 1894.—Samuel Sutton.

Sept. 6, 1894.—Col. C. M. Conyngham.

Dec. 27, 1894.—Rev. George Frear, D. D.

Feb. 8, 1895.—Sheldon Reynolds.

April 21, 1895.—Richard Sharpe.

June 3, 1895.—Col. Franklin Stewart.

Mr. Sisson read a biographical sketch of the late Rev. Dr. George Frear.

MR. BEECHER'S ADDRESS.

The speaker of the day was Rev. Thomas K. Beecher of Elmira, N. Y., a brother of the distinguished Henry Ward Beecher. Rev. Thomas K. Beecher is the last of several brothers, all of whom were preachers. A brief sketch of him appeared in yesterday's RECORD. Dr. Beecher is forceful and at times eloquent. He is witty, sparkling and a fascinating speaker. Dr. Beecher, who spoke without notes, began by alluding to the British and Indian invasion of Wyoming Valley from Elmira and Tioga Point 117 years ago and facetiously referred to his own visit as an invasion from that same Elmira, by way of that same Tioga Point, an invasion which the assemblage might regret ere he had finished, and I fear me much that you

will send your invitation next year reading thus: "Send us a mild massacre, but spare us the mouldy minister." But you have brought it down upon yourselves.

We celebrate, to-day, or rather we commemorate, a massacre, the details of which were so familiar that he would not recount them. Massacres, he said, are no novelty in this world. If a monument were set up to commemorate every massacre of the world the globe trotter would fancy himself in a stone yard looking at the handiwork of the cutter. In Europe crosses are set up to mark the spot where murders are said to have taken place. The speaker alluded to the avenging of Wyoming by the sending of Gen. Sullivan to crush the Six Nations, the expedition taking much life and destroying many homes and vast acres of tilled fields. True, this devastation was upon Indians, but Indians are men. The infamy of the massacre of Wyoming is heaped upon the Indians. The Indians have no champions.

Mr. Beecher said he was not here to champion the Indian, but he made a plea for him on the ground of humanity. We talk of the white man's wrongs but we overlook the red man's wrongs. On the ground that there were no good Indians but dead ones, our forefathers tried hard to turn them into good ones by killing them. Who can tell what kind of a man an Indian would be if he had never seen a white man? When the white man's weapons were added to the Indian's native cruelty he was a destructive being, and the Indian was not wholly responsible.

We celebrate massacres all the world over, for man is a fighting animal. I have stood on the field of Gettysburg and wondered what the boys in blue and the boys in gray would say to each other when they meet in the heavenly place and grasp each other by the hand. The speaker thought the first question by both would be what were we fighting about? Gettysburg is covered with so many monuments to mark the slaughter that they lose their significance by their very number.

Mr. Beecher dipped into political economy and remarked that the greed of gain had been the cause of nine-tenths of all the bloody conflicts the world has ever seen. The discovery of America and its conquest was in the pursuit of gain. Allusion was made to the practice which the European

monarchs had of selling tracts of land in America, which they did not own, and to the struggles growing out of the conflicting claims.

The primitive colonization of this land was under the impulse of acquisitiveness. All the explorers were looking for gold. Senator Sprague said: In the history of this cruel world, I have found nothing so cruel as a million dollars, except two million. The desire for gain has caused all the troubles of this world. When we rise above the brute beast the lust of life becomes the love of property. The Declaration of Independence says all men are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but the modern demand seems to be for life, liberty and property. The perils which overlie our land is the question of property. Ask yourself what constitutes a just title in the sight of God? How much property may each man own? How can he dispose of this property? The Apostle Paul says: I am a debtor to all men, but the natural man says all men are debtors to me.

The Indians were often cheated out of their title. Into the injustice of the white man's title the Indian infused his cruelty. Let me remind you that the monument which is to draw all people toward it is the cross. The battle of industry is harder to fight than the battles of war. Peace hath her victories no less than war. Fight the good fight of faith in this fair valley and you will gain your reward.

A WYOMING HEROINE OF THE REVOLUTION.

A paper by Mrs. Miles L. Peck of Bristol, Conn., of the Daughters of the American Revolution, entitled, "Wyoming Heroine of the Revolution" by invitation of the chairman, was read by Mrs. Katherine Searle McCartney, regent of the Wyoming Valley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. A synopsis is appended:

"A year ago, July 3, 1894, a company of ladies met in Bristol, Conn., and held exercises commemorative of the Wyoming Massacre. They represented the Daughters of the American Revolution and in accordance with a custom which prevails in Connecticut of naming their chapter after some woman who had lived during the revolution, they named the Bristol Chapter for Katherine Gaylord, a fugitive from the Wyoming massacre, a brave pioneer mother who lost her husband in the battle, gave up her only

son to the military service and endured many privations. There must of necessity, says the essayist, be many names upon the monument which represent to you who read them, nothing but the fact that they were actors in that desperate struggle on July 3, 1778. Two of those names, however, represent to us in Bristol something more than this. They were from our town, their descendants still live among us. These were Aaron Gaylord and Elias Roberts.

Aaron Gaylord was born in Bristol in 1745, the son of one of its first settlers. He married Katherine Cole and three children were born to them in Bristol,—a son and two daughters. After serving five years in the Revolutionary war he and his family removed about 1776 to the Wyoming Valley to join the Connecticut colony. He was killed in the battle of Wyoming. His wife, Katherine, joined the throng of fugitives who set out across the almost pathless mountains for their old Connecticut homes. She and three children started early on the morning of July 4, but none too early, for before the sun arose they could see that the savages had set the torch to their homes. Day after day and night after night they made their way through the wilderness in constant peril from wild animals and from even more savage Indians, and in imminent danger of starvation. They were several weeks on this wearisome journey to Connecticut. His 13-year-old son, Daniel, afterwards served in the war, returned to Wyoming, married, and ultimately removed to Illinois.

"Elias Roberts was one of the earliest settlers in Bristol. He and his son, Thomas, were among the Connecticut people who settled Wyoming, and both were there at the time of the battle. The father was killed. Elias was the father of Gideon Roberts, a Connecticut volunteer who was one of the pioneers in the clock business in Bristol—those Yankee clocks now known all over the world."

Mrs. Peck's paper and its graceful reading by Mrs. McCartney elicited many compliments. It is a pleasing fact that the ladies of Bristol have raised funds for a monument to the memory of Katherine Gaylord, the Wyoming heroine, and the same was to have been dedicated yesterday, but the exercises have been postponed until autumn.

Mrs. McCartney read the paper with ex-

cellent effect, and accompanied the reading with some forceful and patriotic remarks of her own, which were warmly applauded.

SUFFERINGS OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

Rev. S. S. Kennedy read a brief paper descriptive of his paternal grand parents and their flight from Wyoming after the battle. Rather than give it in a condensed form the RECORD will hold it for insertion in a subsequent issue. Of three brothers one was killed by the Indians, as were his wife and five children; another was carried into captivity and never again heard of, and the third, the speaker's grandfather, succeeded in getting his family to safety. He and his family ended their days in Adams County. They owned their land in Wyoming Valley, but never returned to claim it.

Rev. David Craft of Lawrenceville made some impromptu remarks, in which he defended the Wyoming settlers from certain aspersions that had been cast upon them. True it was, they made a mistake in going out to give battle instead of acting on the defensive, and they would never have made the attack had they known the overwhelming strength of the combined force of British, Indians and Tories. They were only plain farmers, not a trained military force, and some of the greatest soldiers we know of, men trained to war, made mistakes just as serious. Mr. Craft is as charming a speaker as he is a writer on historical subjects and this brief address was no exception. He said he claimed an interest in Wyoming, not by inheritance of his own, but by that of his wife.

COMMEMORATIVE ASSOCIATION OFFICERS.

President, Calvin Parsons.

Vice presidents, Garrick M. Harding, William L. Conyngnam, Benjamin Dorrance, Charles A. Miner, Dr. J. R. Gore, Milton Bailey.

Secretary, F. C. Johnson.

Corresponding secretary, George H. Butler,

Treasurer, Dr. Harry Hakes.

Librarian, William A. Wilcox.

Committee on grounds—Benjamin Dorrance, Robert T. Pettebone, William H. Jenkins,

Committee on program—William A. Wilcox, H. H. Harvey, Sidney R. Miner.

THE MEMBERSHIP.

The appended persons paid the membership fee of \$1 (some of them contributing

larger amounts for the expense fund) during either 1894 or 1895 or both:

Wilkes-Barre—Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Ather-ton, Miss Emily J. Alexander, Miss Carrie M. Alexander, W. Murray Alexander, George S. Bennett, Col. and Mrs. E. B. Beaumont, E. G. Butler, George H. Butler, W. L. Conyngham, Mrs. W. L. Conyngham, W. H. Conyngham, J. N. Conyngham, Joseph D. Coons, Col. C. Bow, Dougherty, Harry R. Deltrick, Andrew F. Derr, B. M. Eapy, Rev. George Frear, D. D., Hon. C. D. Foster, Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, Abram G. Hoyt, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hunt, J. W. Hollenback, J. S. Harding, H. H. Harvey, Andrew Hunklock, Wesley Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Johnson, Miss Ruth Johnson, Frederick Green Johnson, Robert M. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Kulp, George P. Loomis, E. S. Loop, W. D. Loomis, John Laning, George Loveland, A. W. McAlpine, Hon. Charles A. Miner, W. B. Miner, S. R. Miner, Col. Asher Miner, Stephen H. Miller, W. B. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McClintock, L. Myers, Maj. O. A. Parsons, Miss Fannie L. Pfouts, Mrs. Mary F. Pfouts, George S. Pfouts, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parrish, Miss Anna C. Parrish, Miss E. M. Parrish, Miss Kittie C. Parrish, J. B. Reynolds, Col. G. M. Reynolds, Mrs. Stella D. Reynolds, Miss Helen M. Reynolds, Schuyler L. Reynolds, Dorrance Reynolds, Mrs. Sheldon Reynolds, Richard Sharpe, Richard Sharpe, Jr., James Sutton, Samuel Sutton, Dr. and Mrs. L. I. Shoemaker, Dr. L. H. Taylor, George R. Wright, John G. Wood, Mrs. Stanley Woodward, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Woodward, H. H. Welles, Jr., Ralph H. Wadhams, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Welles.

Scranton—T. C. Von Storch, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wilcox, Mrs. W. H. Heath, Mrs. E. F. Marsh, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Potter, Judge R. W. Archbald, Col. and Mrs. H. M. Boies, William H. Freeman, Horace E. Hand, Mrs. Mary E. Hollister, Mrs. Thomas E. Jones, Jason H. Welles, Hon. L. A. Watres, Roswell H. Patterson, Col. E. H. Ripple, H. W. Rowley, W. R. Storrs

Pittston—B. G. Cooper, Mrs. Annette Gorman, Charles Law, Rev. N. G. Parke, D. D., Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Ross, Miss Jessie Ross, Miss Marianna Ross, Theo. Strong, Milourne Urquhart.

Wyoming—James D. Green, Anna M. Hutchins, Robert Hutchins, Mrs. Sallie Henry, William H. Jenkins, Mrs. Steuben

Jenkins, C. J. Ryman, S. R. Shoemaker, Mrs. Sarah Schooley, Mrs. W. S. Stites, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Polen.

Kingston—Dr. F. Corss, William Loveland, Abram Nesbitt, N. G. Pringle, J. Bennett Smith, Rev. H. H. Welles, D. D., Henry F. Johnson, Benj. R. Tubbs.

Plymouth—Edwin Davenport.

Dorrance—Benjamin Dorrance, George E. Faucourt.

Parsons—Mrs. Harriet Johnson Dunstan, Calvin Parsons.

Carbondale—Pierce Butler, Harry C. Butler.

Forty Fort—Hon. John B. Smith.

Catawissa—Mrs. Martha Polen Seesholtz.

Chicago—Dr. Joel R. Gore.

Jamestown, N. Y.—Milton Bailey.

Bellefonte—Judge James A. Beaver.

Philadelphia—Mrs. Florence Jenkins.

Peely—H. B. Plumb.

Wyalusing—George H. Welles.

Huntsville—Dr. J. J. Rogers.

Berwick—Frank Stewart.

Plains—C. M. Williams.

LaPlume—A. Clark Sisson.

NOTES.

Rev. Dr. Parke was down for the benediction, but between the music, the giving of some announcements and the beginning to disperse, it had to be omitted.

S Judson Stark of Tunkhannock wrote that he had been unable to prepare for this meeting a sketch of Old Putnam, one of the seventeen townships, but he hoped to be able to attend next year and to bring with him the Putnam record and survey, also the old compass used in the survey—which is an interesting relic.

The Historical Society has during the last year obtained a document, the surrender of Wintermoot's fort, signed by the British Col. Butler and by the Indian chief, Old King, showing conclusively, as many believe, that it was the latter and not Brant, who commanded the Indians during the battle and massacre of Wyoming.

Two new vice presidents of the society are Dr. J. R. Gore of Chicago and Milton Bailey of Jamestown, N. Y. They are descended from the Gore family, of whom five were killed in the battle.

After the exercises a young woman was seen passing her flowers over the marble slab in the monument, which bears the names of the victims. This was Miss Lily M. Bonfield of West Pittston, a blind girl.

CALVIN PARSONS,

About Whose Life Cling the Memo-
ries of Old Wyoming.

The RECORD presents herewith a portrait of Calvin Parsons, who presided July 3, at the annual monument exercises of the Wyoming Commemorative Association. Mr. Parsons is one of our oldest residents, though he does not look it by a decade or two. He reached his 80th birthday in April last. He celebrated his golden wedding eight years ago and if he and his estimable wife are both spared they will celebrate the fifty-eighth anniversary of their marriage next month, Aug. 17, 1895. Mr. Parsons wooed and won his wife at a time when the



only facilities for courting her were those afforded by a horseback trip from Wyoming Valley to Connecticut and back. Their married life has been a long and happy one, such as is vouchsafed to but few. Mr. Parsons has spent his entire life at the old homestead in the borough of Parsons, known in years gone by as Laurel Run. He was one of the projectors of the Wyoming Commemorative Association and can always be relied on to attend the meetings. The blood of the Connecticut pioneers flows in his veins. His maternal grandfather, Stephen Whiton, and his great-grandfather, Anderson Dana, both fell victims to British and Indian cruelty on July 3, 1778. The fight

of those made widows and orphans, and of their perils in crossing the almost pathless wilderness to Connecticut, is graphically told in the histories. On this terrible flight more than one woman was seized with the pangs of maternity, and thus it was that the mother of Mr. Parsons was born.

Mr. Parsons is a man of public spirit and though an octogenarian he is not an "old foggy" in any sense of the word. On the contrary he is progressive to a marked degree. He possesses a constitution and a degree of health that speaks volumes of his prudent habits of life. He has been a total abstainer from intoxicants since early manhood and has held the highest position in the Sons of Temperance, with which he is still affiliated. He has been a life long member of the First Presbyterian Church, and a frequent delegate to the general assemblies of that great organization. He is an officer of the Historical Society, a director of the Wilkes-Barre Water Co., and of the People's Bank, probably of other local institutions. At the ripe age of 80 years he is as young as ever in purpose and personality and his mental and bodily powers are unabated. His step is as elastic as that of a man of 50 and his advice and counsel is as much sought as it was 10, 20, 40 years ago. May he long be spared to his family and to the community.

An Old Heirloom.

W. C. Creasy, residing on North Main street, is the proud possessor of a Masonic heirloom which money cannot buy. It is a razor, supposed to be over 200 years old. The blade, which is still in fine condition, has engraved upon one side several Masonic emblems representing all the degrees known in America, and many others with which the owner is not familiar. Mr. Creasy inherited it from his grandfather, William Clark, who died twenty years ago at the age of 82. He received it from his grandfather. The present owner is the fourth grandson who has come into possession of the razor, the rule being that the oldest grandson should inherit it.

Mr. Creasy has had several tempting offers for the historic blade from prominent Masons, but has refused them all. It will descend to his oldest grandson.

WYOMING'S THIRD OF JULY.

Daily Record, July 3, 1895.

To-day we commemorate an event which figures in every history of the country—the battle and massacre of Wyoming. One hundred and seventeen years ago our forefathers marched out from Forty Fort to meet a combined foe of British, Tories and Indians and so overwhelming was the invading enemy that he won the day with comparatively little loss, while the brave defenders of home and kindred were almost exterminated.

The event was of more than local significance, for it practically sounded the death knell of Indian power in the colonies. President Washington sent Gen. John Sullivan to avenge the deed and in the following summer the dreaded Six Nations were crushed in their stronghold, and except from scattering bands of redskins the frontiers were ever after rendered safe.

But white winged peace was not to brood for long upon this favored region. The British were gone, indeed, and so were their treacherous sympathizers, the Tories and their savage allies, the Indians, but Wyoming was called upon to deal with a foe almost as cruel and as blood-thirsty as the others—a foe of her own household. The Connecticut settlers' title to the land was disputed by claimants under Pennsylvania, and for thirty years the domestic war raged with greater or less intensity, many valuable lives being lost on both sides. The story of the Pennamite War is told in histories and it is well worth knowing.

It seems preposterous that British monarchs should have been so unbusiness like as to deed the same soil to two different parties, but it was done more than once and strife and bloodshed followed as inevitably as disaster follows when in our day two locomotives try to pass one another on the same track.

It is well that we recount the brave deeds of our ancestors. We, their descendants, who live in luxuriant times need to contrast our condition with theirs lest we become weak and effeminate. The story of those days which tried men's souls is not told often enough and it is more than sentiment which prompts a few patriotic men and women to meet at the Wyoming monument each year and strive to learn some of the lessons which come down to us from that gory past.

If the celebration of these memorial days which tell of Lexington, Bunker Hill, Ticonderoga, Saratoga, Yorktown, Bennington, Stony Point, Valley Forge, the Declaration, and Wyoming, does not cause our pulses to throb more quickly, then is history written for us in vain and we are unworthy to have the blood of the patriotic men and women of the Revolution coursing in our sluggish veins. Let us, as we review the past, strive to reach a higher ideal of our glorious inheritance and of our privileges and responsibilities—let us determine that the comfortable ease of the nineteenth century shall not rob us and our children of our virility, but on the other hand that we may each and all prove ourselves worthy of those suffering men and women who died that we might live.

F. C. J.

That Lancaster Relic.

A noted relic of Revolutionary times discovered at Lancaster, a few days ago, is the field and camp order book in which General Sullivan made record of his march in the summer of 1779 from New York to Wyoming and up the Susquehanna Valley. The book was found among some papers that had belonged to Captain Meyer, who was General Sullivan's orderly in that campaign.—Evening Leader.

The above item is correct, though instead of a few days it was found over a year ago, as published in the RECORD at the time. It was an interesting relic and was sold to the National Government to be placed in the archives. The finder was J. C. Leamon, who came across it among the effects of his grandfather, a Revolutionary rifle-maker of Lancaster.

SONS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Only Formal Celebration in Town.

Excellent Address by Rev. Dr. Andrews of Guilford, Conn., a Well Known Student of History—Reviews the Declaration of Independence and Incidents Preceding and Following the Signing.

Daily Record, July 5, 1895.

The only local celebration of Independence Day in Wilkes-Barre was that of the Sons of the Revolution. The exercises were held in the Historical Society building at 10 a. m. The assemblage was large, representative and enthusiastic in its patriotic manifestations. The Colonial Dames were also present and the Daughters of the American Revolution wearing badges and many others. Rev. Thomas K. Beecher of Elmira, who made the address at Wyoming monument the preceding day, was present as a guest. The room was decorated with flags and with the blue and yellow of the Pennsylvania Sons.

A quartet comprising Mrs. Freudenberg, Miss Slich, Richard Williams and Fred R. Smith sang patriotic hymns, Professor Alexander accompanying on organ. Rev. Dr. Hodge made the invocation and Rev. Dr. Jones read the Declaration of Independence.

Rev. Mr. Hayden announced that the society would offer a prize of \$10 for the best essay on a Revolutionary topic, to the pupils of the local schools.

Charles F. Rockwell, a member from Honesdale, presented photographs of three aunts of his, daughters of a Revolutionary soldier, Jabez Rockwell. Their names are Mrs. Phebe Gilmfort, Ellenville, N. Y., 10th child, born 1805; Catherine Bowden, Stroudsburg, 12th child, born 1812; Lucinda Valentine, Brooklyn, N. Y., born 1816.

The speaker of the day was Rev. Dr. Andrews, of Guilford, Conn., a well known student of history and a college classmate of

Rev. Dr. Hodge. He was listened to with the closest attention and with every evidence of appreciation.

The speaker began by saying that he doubted whether any theme could better accord with the time and the place than the charter of Connecticut and the Declaration of Independence. He would try to show how the information given in the charter to the people by the king, helped to prepare for the people's accession, announced in the declaration, to a throne loftier than a king's.

The charter of Connecticut was granted in 1662, and the territory which it gave to the freemen of the colony was very much larger than his majesty's kingdom, Great Britain and Ireland. It extended from Narragansett Bay across the continent to the Pacific and roughly speaking, occupied the space between the forty-first and forty-second parallels of latitude. Narrow as this ribbon of land was when we consider its enormous length of 2,700 miles, and nearly impossible as it is was that the whole of it should ever be controlled by one local government, there is much which kindles the imagination in the king's grant to Connecticut. There is a strange fascination in the thought of the jeweled zone clasped by a monarch's careless hand across the virgin continent and carelessly labeled Connecticut.

But King Charles II was really doing far more than he dreamed of; he was yielding the immemorial claim of kings to the ownership of the earth. The charter begins by reciting, as the motive for granting it, the acquisition of the soil which grantees occupied, by purchase and conquest and its subjugation and improvement by them. That is to say, the king was giving the colonists their own; he was making confession that those who had redeemed the wilderness for civilization were its rightful possessors. The charter in effect declared that the Connecticut belt belonged to the people of that time and of all times. The king's claim gave way to the people's claim forever.

The speaker went on to show how poor a guardian did the king prove of the territorial rights which he conceded so royally, and how he began robbing his subjects, not only of what they had received as his grant, but of a large part of the soil which they themselves had won from nature. How (in 1674) the royal brothers, Charles and

the Duke of York, again illustrated the turpidity of the Stuarts by the issue of a patent which once more invaded Connecticut territory. This dismemberment, which an armed force actually attempted to accomplish, the colonies successfully protested against, acting as its rulers naturally said, "In faithfulness to our royal sovereign and in obedience to his majesty's commands in his gracious charter to this colony." Thus did they proclaim their fidelity to the sovereign who was so false to them. How false he was and how much value he set upon an instrument bearing his own kingly seal was shown once more in 1681, when he gave away five degrees in longitude of the territory which he himself had made Connecticut soil, lying west of the Delaware. William Penn was a far worthier recipient of royal bounty than James Stuart, but the transaction sufficiently completes the illustration of the insecurity which charters, as grants of territory, enjoyed in the keeping of the crown. Perhaps the most prominent result of royal action in partitioning American soil has been disputes about boundaries, barely ended to-day.

On the Fourth of July, 1776, a new sovereign, not then quite clearly recognized as such, assumed the essential rights and powers of the king of England. The signers of the Declaration of Independence spoke in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies," and the People had become royal. The People declared the thirteen colonies independent States, and the People had nearly won independence for the States, before, in 1771, the Articles of Confederation assumed to transform a nation into a league of sovereignties.

Two-thirds of the royal land grants had been practically void from the outset. The demand for the surrender of nearly all the rest, now urged by Congress, not in the name of the States but of the Union, that is of the American people, was reasonable and just. It rested on the principle underlying the Connecticut charter, that the land belonged to those who had won it and could effectively occupy it. And when Connecticut in 1780 offered to cede the larger part of what she claimed west of Pennsylvania, while seeming to relinquish chartered rights she in fact maintained the spirit of the charter. That instrument had virtually transferred control over the territories from

king to people. Connecticut and her sister States now recognized the new power, the new sovereignty, freely indeed, yet royally. The formal concession of the land in question was delayed for some years longer (1786), but the offer was, and was felt to be, a sufficient pledge that the people's demand would be respected.

Far more significant of the new order which the Declaration of Independence opened, and of the fact that a new king had been therein proclaimed, more completely master of the American soil and ruler over the American commonwealths than any king of England ever was, was what took place in November 1782. The articles of confederation had meantime gone into effect, and in them Bancroft says that "America had seated anarchy deep in the very source of legislation;" the States were separate sovereignties and the articles furnished scarcely any central authority at all. Yet those articles had provided that Congress should be the last resort on appeal in all disputes between States. And under this provision the United States, that is the people of America, took away from Connecticut what was left of her claim under the charter, alike as to territory and jurisdiction.

In those earlier instruments the monarchs of England had unconsciously evoked a sovereign in America whose word of power was heard in the later one and thenceforth the bodies politic erected by a distant ruler felt that the throne of a king was among them, but far more interesting and important than any grants of territory is the erection by charter of those bodies politic; especially interesting and important is the recognition of political rights given in the charter of Connecticut. It was a recognition rather than an original grant, for those rights were already in use, but it was marvelous that a Stuart king seeing them in use should not rather have snatched them away. Instead of that he solemnly established in the body politic called Connecticut, a nearly independent republic of the most Democratic type. Its people chose all their local rulers. Every function of government was theirs, in every form short of absolute sovereignty, and the charter of Charles II had in fact recognized the State as a true political society.

The speaker continued his subject, giving a most interesting study of the development of government in Connecticut, and of the colonies in general and of the changes leading up to the Declaration of Independence.

OVER THE TURNPIKE.

Along the Route to Stoddartsville.

Memories of Pioneer Times Suggested

by Scenes Along the Route — The
 "Shades of Death" Now a Beautiful Country.

I.

A rather hard place to get to is Stoddartsville, but once you are there you feel amply repaid for the eighteen or twenty miles ride over the mountains from Wilkes-Barre. It is eighteen miles by the old road through Oliver's Mills, but by the new turnpike it is a couple of miles longer, though the greater distance is fully compensated for by the comparative freedom from hills. One drives out of Wilkes-Barre through Kidder street, crosses Coal Brook by the new bridge, leaves the borough of Parsons to the left, climbs the hills past the old Baltimore mines by an easy grade, crosses the back track of the Central on a pretty rustic bridge, and just before dropping the valley from sight one comes to the toll gate. It is a pretty little house, rustic in effect, not yet finished, and the traveler pays 10 cents to ride over the turnpike one way. Three miles from Wilkes-Barre the traveler finds himself in a rocky gorge through which tumbles the pretty little mountain stream, Laurel Run. The mountain to the right is the one on which Mountain Park is located a short distance away, and around this abrupt curve the Jersey Central trains are dashing by, high overhead. If one were to follow the stream it would bring one to Oliver's Mills, but the road leaves Laurel Run at this point and a good stiff hill a mile long has to be climbed. On the opposite side of the gorge from the Jersey Central tracks is the Lehigh Valley cut-off, and here the view is a particularly pretty one. Not far away is the scene of the mountain murder and the cave in which "Red Nosed Mike," who afterwards hung for his crime, hid the paymaster's money. All along are pretty rustic bridges. Here and there is a pine

tree, though but few are left where once was a luxuriant pine and hemlock forest. Crossing the Valley cut-off by an iron and rustic bridge, the summit is reached and here is a rustic tower, from which may be had a wide mountain view and a last glimpse of Wyoming Valley, the borough of Parsons in the distance.

The turnpike strikes the old main road to Bear Creek a little beyond Barney Searfoss's, known to many as Seven-Mile-Jack's, a country hotel in great favor with fishermen and with travelers generally. This is the spot where a pioneer family named Bullock lived at the time of the Wyoming massacre in 1778 and was where the fugitives who fled from the valley on the morning after the carnage passed their first night. The occupants had fled, thinking the Indians would soon be upon them, but left a store of provisions which served the sorry fugitives a good purpose. At this time there was little more than a bridle path from the Wyoming settlements across the wilderness to the Delaware and Connecticut, in after years substantially adopted as a highway by the Wilkes-Barre & Easton Turnpike Co.

The following year (1779) Gen. Sullivan's army cut a road through the forest from Easton to Wilkes-Barre and though it corresponds with the general line of the present road the two are entirely different. Traces of the Sullivan military road may still be seen by observing woodsmen, who say its course is marked by a growth of scrub pines, nowhere else seen.

There can be no finer drives than the shale roads which have been constructed through the liberality of Gen. Oliver, Albert Lewis and others, but after passing Bear Creek the traveler leaves them and strikes ordinary country roads. In places they are very rough, either from stones with which they have been filled or from logs, the remains of an old-time corduroy road. There are few dwellers along the road, though here and there are abandoned houses, also clearings from which almost all vestiges of human occupancy have disappeared. For what was once a flourishing lumber region relapsed into wilderness with the disappearance of the timber. Forest fires have added to the desolation and what should now be vast stretches of second growth timber are nothing but

barren wastes. People who have lived here all their lives say that within a generation they have seen second growth plus twenty inches in diameter, but this has nearly all been destroyed by forest fires.

Much of the region between Bear Creek and Stoddardsville was known to the pioneers as the "Shades of Death." It was a low, swampy region abounding with an almost impenetrable growth of timber, in which the sun could scarcely penetrate, even at noon day, and here the fleeing fugitives experienced many hardships, some perishing of hunger and exhaustion.

Stoddardsville has an interesting history, but it must be reserved for another chapter. Once a flourishing town with brilliant prospects, it is now only a country cross roads hamlet, of three or four families. It has beautiful natural advantages that recommend it as a delightful resort for summer seekers after rest and change, and if it had railroad accommodations would bound into speedy favor.

It is on the border line between Luzerne and Monroe counties. Though the Lehigh river separates the two counties, yet by some curious freak of the engineers who made the survey the river at Stoddardsville is entirely in Luzerne county, so that Monroe evades any responsibility as to bridge construction.

Stoddardsville is the only village in Buck Township except Gouldsboro. Lewis Stull has been postmaster ever since he first came here thirty-eight years ago, through all political administrations. He says the Democratic presidents appointed him for being a Democrat and the Republican presidents appointed him to punish him for not being a Republican. There is a daily mail from Gouldsboro station, sixteen miles distant, on the D., L. & W. R. R. The nearest point on the W. B. & F. R. R. is Wagner's Station, six miles distant, though as yet trains do not stop nearer than Stauffer's, ten miles distant.

Buck Township has thirty-six registered voters and it is a Democratic stronghold. At the last presidential election there were twenty votes cast (an unusually big turnout) and of these Cleveland got all but three. Across the river in Monroe it is said there are some voters who are still shouting for Jackson.

In the little burying ground at Stoddardsville lies George Buck, after whom the town-

ship is named. He died in 1831 and his grave-stone says he was about 105 years old. If these figures are correct he was much older than his wife, who according to her grave-stone was only 61 at the time of his death. He was one of the Hessian troops employed by Great Britain during the Revolution. Though he came to America to help whip the Americans he liked the country well enough to make it his home for the rest of his days. He was the first tavernkeeper in Buck and for many years kept the mountain inn remembered as Terwilliger's and now known as Tucker's, the resort of many Wilkes-Barre fishermen.

In this burying ground repose some of the Stoddards, relatives of the Wilkes-Barre Stoddards. A grave stone knocked from its base and lying almost concealed by earth and weeds marks the resting place of the father of ex-sheriff Whitaker of Wilkes-Barre.

The interesting story of the rise and fall of Stoddardsville will be told in another article.

F. C. J.

STODDARDSVILLE.

Memories of Early Times in That Region.

The Enterprise of a Philadelphia
Merchant to Establish a Big Business in a Wilderness—Can the
Latent Power in Its Falls now Going to Waste be Utilized?

II.

In a former article Stoddardsville was mentioned as a place of great expectations three quarters of a century ago, but that its hopes were blasted and it is now a hamlet of less than half a dozen houses. It has no hotel, store or school house and at such times as a doctor must be had—occasions rare in so salubrious a locality—he comes from Wilkes-Barre, and his fee for his forty mile trip over the mountains is considerable, usually \$25. A doctor can be had at White Haven, eleven miles distant, for proportionately less. But the elevation is some 1,500 feet, the air is balmy and pure, the water beyond suspicion,

and the people seldom require either pills, powders or poisons. In case of sickness, ordinary home remedies and good care usually suffice to bring the sufferer safely and speedily around.

Stoddartsville lies on the direct road to Easton on

THE PATH FIRST LOCATED

by the Wyoming pioneers, approximately followed by Sullivan's army in 1779 and permanently adopted by the Wyoming & Easton Turnpike Co. This company was chartered in 1802 and after some four or five years in construction was completed to the Delaware at a cost of \$75,000. The turnpike proved so profitable that several 5 per cent. dividends were paid. During the War of 1812 the farmers of Northampton county were unable to procure land plaster from the seaboard, owing to the embargo on American shipping, and were compelled to use New York plaster, which was conveyed down the Susquehanna on arks to Wilkes-Barre and thence in sleds and wagons over the turnpike. This thoroughfare proved of great importance for many years and there are scores of people who remember it in its palmy days as a stage and commercial line.

In the early days of turnpike travel, Luzerne county was an agricultural district but as there was no considerable home market it had to look to Philadelphia for purchasers. Easton was the market point for Luzerne county grain but—in these railroad days we can scarcely realize it—there was no route thither except over the turnpike.

IT IS JUST HERE THAT

The story of Stoddartsville and its splendid water power begins. John Stoddart was a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia and he thought he saw a great business opportunity. The falls of the Lehigh would furnish the power for a great milling industry and the grain of Luzerne county would no longer have to be hauled in wagons to Easton but would be ground at his mills and be conveyed to Philadelphia easily and cheaply by the navigation company's slack-water canal system. He saw that he could save Luzerne county farmers the greater part of the 60-mile haul to Easton by buying their wheat at the Lehigh and the project was a safe and judicious one, but force of adverse circumstances strangled it in its infancy.

Mr. Stoddart accordingly laid out a town at the falls in 1815 and it bears his name to-day, though he projected a city instead of the hamlet that it has since become. He built an extensive grist mill and a busy little mountain village opened up. Had the original plans of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co. (which did so much to develop Northeastern Pennsylvania in the early part of the century), been carried out Mr. Stoddart's venture would have been successful, but a radical change in the navigation plans took place and the Stoddartsville project became a failure which almost ruined its enterprising projector. According to the charter Stoddartsville was to have been the head of navigation, but by some means or other the navigation company decided to make White Haven the head of its canal system and this action, which Mr. Stoddart could not possibly have foreseen left Stoddartsville away off in the pine forests, a dozen miles away from that great commercial highway of the navigation company, which was to float the flour of Luzerne County to Philadelphia. Mr. Stoddart bravely undertook to fight against fate by hauling his flour to Easton by wagon, but it took only two or three years of this kind of business to wreck his enterprise completely.

While his Stoddartsville venture was being wrecked by local causes his Philadelphia mercantile establishment, one of the largest in that city, was completely destroyed by the financial stringency growing out of the ruinous embargo acts and other evil effects of the War of 1812, which carried down so many of our American merchants. His fortune was swept away and he was never able to regain it and was compelled to end his days as a clerk in a commercial establishment.

He never spent much time at Stoddartsville himself, but placed in charge his son Isaac who built a splendid home here and

DAZZLED THE COUNTRY FOLK

by bringing his bride in a coach and four. The young wife was Miss Lydia Butler, whose grandfather was Col. Zebulon Butler, who led the Wyoming soldiery on the fatal 31 of July, 1778. Her great-grandfather was Rev. Jacob Johnson, who was the pioneer pastor at Wilkes-Barre. The married life of Isaac Stoddart and his wife proved a long and happy one and was blessed with eleven children.

The house, occupied many years now by Lewis Stull, indicates the broad ideas which the Stoddarts possessed. Its rooms are large and the ceilings high. In the generous fire places log fires blazed in the old days and probably do yet when the winter nights are long and drear. The mantles were of elaborate carving and the folding doors were so high as to reach the ceiling. All the parts of the house, except the rough lumber, were hauled on wagons from Philadelphia.

After this lapse of time it is a place of beauty to-day. It stands on a slope, shaded with maples and fir and balsam, and at the foot is the Lehigh, the murmur of whose roar, heard summer and winter, sounds strangely like the wash of the sea. Across the road is the store building recalling the busy lumbering days of half a century ago. Over the Corinthian pillars is the sign of Malone & Buckman, the letters of which are as black as if painted only last year. Down by the stream is the four and a half story ruin of the stone mill, which swallowed up so much of John Stoddard's money long ago. The mill stones were idle for forty years after the bursting of the navigation hopes, and in 1857 the big structure was destroyed by fire. It was at this time occupied as a part of the lumber making plant of Mr. Stull, which was again making Stoddartsville so busy a hive of industry. Then came

THE GREAT FRESHET

of 1862, which swept away the navigation company's improvements in the Lehigh below White Haven and for the second time left Stoddartsville off by itself in the forest. This flood resulted in the drowning of fully 100 persons along the Lehigh.

After the failure of Mr. Stoddart's milling project, owing to the making of White Haven the head of navigation, Stoddartsville fell into decay until the region began to be invaded by the hardy lumberman in the 30's. Then the whole country became alive with lumber camps and saw mills were running day and night in all directions.

At Stoddartsville a dam was built on the falls and the back water created a pool similar to that at Bear Creek, extending up stream for a considerable distance. The hemlock and pine logs from up country were floated down to the boom at the pool. The

SCENES DURING THE FRESHETS

When the logs were carried on the dam

with a mighty rush and roar are described with great vividness by persons who were here at that time. In order to get rafts past the falls, the product of saw mills further up stream at Gouldsboro, Drinker's and other points, there was constructed of timber and planks, a chute, or as it was called, a plane. The rafts of lumber, 12 feet wide and 64 feet long were run from the pool into the chute and then a flood gate was opened and the raft was washed down into the slack water below the falls, known as Dam One. There were several of these dams between Stoddartsville and White Haven, and the improvement was the property of the Upper Lehigh Navigation Co. They were used until the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Co.'s dams were swept out by the flood of 1862. After that time the lumber of the Gouldsboro region was hauled to the D., L. & W. R. R. So long as any timber remained in the Stoddartsville region it was floated down on spring freshets to the mills at White Haven.

As if Stoddartsville had not had misfortune enough it was nearly

DESTROYED BY A FOREST FIRE

In May, 1875. The fire began near White Haven and cut a swath a mile or more wide for a length of thirty miles. It was only stopped near Gouldsboro, by the Sand Cut of the D., L. & W. R. R. on the Pocono Mountain. The loss of timber was tremendous. At Stoddartsville the heat and darkness were appalling and the inhabitants were threatened with extreme peril but luckily they escaped with their lives, except one woman, though several buildings were burned. The fire cut a clean path and licked up everything of a combustible character, the fire spreading by the intensity of the heat as well as directly by the flames.

This was the last of the lumbering industry in this region, which had covered the period from about 1835 to 1875.

Mention has already been made of Isaac Stoddart, who was his father's manager at Stoddartsville. Another son of John Stoddart, Joseph, is still living and though a resident of Philadelphia he has a cottage in Stoddartsville and passes his summers there in comfortable retirement. He is the father of Mrs. George H. Butler. He was partially disabled by a stroke of paralysis ten years ago, but he is a man of unbounded energy and by systematic exercise he has largely regained his powers. He has a fine outfit of

woodworking tools and busies himself in making useful articles which he either presents to his friends or gives to churches to be placed on sale. The only thing to mar his quiet retreat is the growing illness of his wife, whose presence used to lend so rare a charm to summer life in Stoddartsville. From a slightly bluff on Mr. Stoddart's grounds can be had the most picturesque view of the region. The tract is kept as far as possible in a state of nature, pines and rhododendrons and other denizens of the forest having been left undisturbed.

As a Philadelphia Stoddart (Isaac) had gone to Wyoming Valley to marry a Butler in those early days, so it was both interesting and fitting that a Wyoming Valley Butler (George H.) should in recent years go to Philadelphia and bring as his bride a Stoddart, a niece of that same Isaac, and thus return a compliment in kind.

William and Harry Stoddart, present prominent wholesale merchants in Wilkes-Barre, are cousins, and are grandsons of the pioneer John Stoddart's brother Leonard, who came from Northumberland and kept the public house at Stoddartsville many years. William Stoddart is a son of Henry Stoddart, who succeeded his father in the hotel and Harry's father was the late John Stoddart.

The falls of the Lehigh at Stoddartsville would furnish a

MAGNIFICENT WATER POWER

for some industry, and there are persons who believe it would be feasible to harness them for furnishing electricity to Wilkes-Barre. The Lehigh in the course of a few rods has a fall of some thirty-five feet, and a competent engineer who has figured on the volume and velocity of the stream estimates that 290-horse power is constantly going to waste twenty-four hours a day, and of course if this water were dammed so as to prevent waste this power could be vastly increased.

A word as to the destruction of the timber. Friends of forest preservation tell us that the destruction of the timber noticeably diminishes the water supply of a region. Persons now living who knew the Lehigh falls when the timber was standing say the volume of water was fully twice what it is now.

THE BOGUS CITY OF ROME.

The story of the fall of Stoddartsville would not be complete without reference to a gigantic swindling scheme which was set

afoot early in the century by a party of Philadelphia speculators. The Great Swamp near Stoddartsville was purchased in 1810 by this dishonest syndicate and laid out as the "City of Rome." A city government was organized and mechanics of various trades were deluded in buying lots and removing thither. The swindle was at length exposed by Charles Mizer in his newspaper, the Wilkes-Barre *Gleaner*, but not until, as Pearce says, many poor men had invested their means and removed to the "Shades of Death." 100 miles from the sea board, a dark and gloomy swamp through which fled the fugitives from Wyoming after the massacre of 1778.

F. C. J.

HER NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY.

The nineteenth birthday anniversary of Mrs. Sarah Jackson was observed July 8, 1895, by a family party at the residence of William H. Jackson of West Pittston, with whom she has made her home for several years. Those constituting the party were Mrs. Pamela Frantz of Carverton, who also celebrated her seventy-fourth birthday anniversary at the same time; Rev. and Mrs. Wrigley of Carverton; G. L. C. Frantz, Mrs. Hubert Frantz and Mrs. Daniel Frantz, Mrs. J. C. F. Sutherland, George T. Sutherland and Miss Ina Sutherland of Wilkes-Barre, and Mrs. Frank Patten of West Pittston. Mrs. Jackson was unfortunate in getting a very severe fall a week before and was unable to appreciate as fully as she otherwise would have the presence of her friends, although the gathering was a very pleasant one. Mrs. Jackson was previous to her marriage to the late Samuel Jackson of Carverton Miss Sarah Phenix of a family noted for its longevity, her father having lived to the age of 108 years, and retaining his mental vigor to the last. She is herself a remarkably well preserved woman, requiring no assistance in taking care of herself. Her sight and hearing are good, and unless taken off by some severe illness bids fair to celebrate her hundredth anniversary.

FROM THE DAYS OF OUR ANCESTORS.

Postmaster C. M. Williams of Plainsville was recently presented with a wooden hinge taken from the old homestead built by Capt.

Jeremiah Blanchard in 1787 on the bank of the Susquehanna River at Port Blanchard. The landmark has been recently demolished. It was a one and a half story building and was no doubt one of the handsomest in the valley at that time. The hinge was made of white oak and was fastened to the cellar door with hand made nails. The crossbar of the hinge is three feet long and the upright strap twelve inches. The only thing about it made of iron is the nails. On the site of the old building which was taken down by Ebenezer Blanchard, a grandson of the builder, a handsome modern residence is being erected. Jeremiah Blanchard, the builder of the house, was an uncle of C. M. Williams.

Mr. Williams was also presented with an old fence post axe recently dug up in the cellar of the old Halfway House, a celebrated midway tavern between Pittston and Wilkes-Barre. The axe is very narrow and is hand-made and was used to make notches for fence posts when augers and other tools were too dear to be used by farmers.

EARLY ORPHAN'S COURT RECORD

In the battle of Wyoming July 3, 1778, one of the victims was Major John Garrett, the story of whose life and death has recently been told in a pamphlet by Rev. H. E. Hayden. From the latter it appears that nearly ten years afterwards, John Cary, of Wilkes-Barre, was granted by the Court of Luzerne county, September 11, 1787, letters of administration on the estate of Major John Garrett, bond \$500, Nathan Cary and Solomon Avery, sureties; Eben Bowman and John Scott, witnesses. An inventory of the estate was made Aug. 29, 1788, and the administrator's account rendered May 31, 1790, but they are both lost.

In 1788 Cary confirmed the reported destruction of Major Garrett's personal property in his application to the court for power to sell real estate:

"To the Honorable the Orphans' Court of the County of Luzerne. John Cary, administrator of the estate of John Garrett, late of Wilkes-Barre, deceased, Humbly sheweth, That there is no personal estate of the deceased to be found, the same having been lost or destroyed in the general destruction of the settlement in 1778. That the debts exhibited against the estate appear to

amount to the sum of one hundred and twenty-six pounds, three shillings and four pence, one farthing, besides the charges of administration. Wherefore your petitioner prays for an order of the Court for the sale of the whole real estate of said deceased for payment of said debts and charges of administration. JOHN CARY.

Wilkes-Barre, Sept. 1, 1788.

The Court authorized the sale on the same day. It was advertised to take place Oct. 7th, 1788, at the house of Abel Yarrington, in Wilkes-Barre, but the property was not conveyed until June 15th, 1790.

A VETERAN FROM SOUTH DAKOTA.

J. Taylor Bennett of Egan, Moody County, South Dakota, in renewing his Record says that there are plenty of Indians near him but they are well educated by the government and are good mechanics. He says the potato bugs have all left Dakota. He drops into history as follows:

I am 84 years old and my wife is 82 and we do all our own work.

In my boyhood I knew many of the old settlers who escaped from the massacre of 1778. On my mother's side the men were all killed.

My great grandmother and her three children escaped from the valley through Solomon's Gap with eighty fugitives and only one man to pilot them through the "big woods" to Easton.

My grandmother was a Benedict and married John Taylor, that is where I got my name. The Benedicts lived a mile and a half southwest of Hyde Park. When I was a small boy I went to Slocum Hollow (now Soranton) to mill.

BROUGHT THE FIRST PRINTING PRESS.

B. H. Howard of the Mansfield State Normal School is visiting Henry W. Merritt of Plains. Mr. Howard was a member of the class of '88, and last year finished the scientific course. He was also one of the organizers of the S. S. Society of that school. His great-grandfather, Charles Howard, brought the first printing press into Wilkes-Barre, hauling it all the way from Bridgeport, Conn., with a team of oxen.

OLDEST BOOK IN TOWN.

Several books have been mentioned in the Record as being probably the oldest in town, but they all have to take a back seat for one that is owned by Mrs. A. R. Brundage, to whom it has descended from her ancestor, Eliphalet Bulkeley. It is a copy of the famous breeches bible and is 302 years old. It derives its name from the fact that the verse in Genesis saying that Adam and Eve made themselves "aprons" out of figleaves, is translated so as to make their apparel "breeches" instead of figleaves. It is one of the rarest editions of the early bible and was printed in 1593. It is copiously illustrated and is in two volumes. It has a great many blank pages on which its pious owners have made references to their theological handbooks. It has a book-plate reading:

Eliphalet Bulkeley

Ejus Liber

June, 2, 1764.

Its title page is curious enough to bear reprinting:

THE
NEWE TESTA-
MENT OF OVR LORD
JESVS CHRIST, TRANSLATED
OVT OF GREEKE BY
THEOD. BEZA.

(Here follows description of contents).

* * * *

Englished by L. Tomson.
Imprinted at London
by the Deputies of Christopher
Barker, Printer to the
Queenes most excellent
Maiestie,
Anno 1593.
Cum Privilegio.

ANOTHER CURIOUS OLD BOOK.

John Wilson of Plains has a valuable old book entitled "A Commentarie or Exposition Upon the five first chapters of the Epistle to the Galatians penned by the godly learned and iudicious Diuine Mr. William Perkins. Now polished for the benefit of the Church and continued with Supplement ypon the sixt chapter by Ralfe Cudworth Bachelour of Diuinitie. Printed at London by John Legatt Printer to the Vniuersitie of Cambridge 1617."

This makes it 272 years old, or 28 years older than Dr. Urquhart's and 19 years older than Mr. Cook's. The book is bound in leather and is in excellent condition. On one of the fly leaves in

part of a family record are given the births of five children:

"Hester Hadnot born June the 14 in the year 1717 at 5 a clock in the morn.

"Samuel Hadnott born June the 10 at 4 a clock in the morning 1719.

"Ann Hadnot born Dec. 27 at 10 clock in the morning 1720.

"Mary Hadnott born Oct 28 at 6 a clock in the morning 1720.

"Rebeckah Hadnott born Oct. the 18 at 4 a clock in the morning 1724."

HARD TO BEAT THIS.

All the books reported in the Record are juveniles compared with a lot in the library of the late Harrison Wright. The catalog shows that his valuable collection, gathered in Germany, contained not only scores of books printed prior to 1600, but no less than 25 prior to 1500. The oldest of these is dated 1471, at Nuremberg, and thus antedates the discovery of America 20 years.

This specimen dated 1471 is one of the very oldest printed books. Printing was not introduced into England until 5 years later, and into Scotland 20 years later. The first printing press set up in America was by the Spaniards in Mexico in 1536 and the first press in the present limit of the United States was brought over the ocean by Harvard College in 1638.

The art of printing from moveable types was invented just a little prior to that time, but historians make conflicting claims as to time and even the country.

CURIOUS OLD INDENTURE.

Following is a copy of an indenture of a girl who was "bound out" in the last century, as printed in the Leader: Of the people mentioned Benjamin Bailey lived up on the Plains. The paper here copied was in the custody of Col. Zebulon Butler, grandfather of C. E. Butler, its present possessor:

(Copy of Indenture.)

This indenture made the 24th day of November, 1786, witnesseth that Caleb Newman, of Putnam, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania father and natural guardian to Dorothy Newman, who is a minor, doth by these presents bind out Dorothy Newman as an apprentice to Benjamin Bailey and Elizabeth, his wife, both of Wilkesbury, to dwell and live with them until she shall arrive at the age of eighteen years, which will be August 9, 1798, during which

term s'd apprentice her master and mistress shall faithfully serve, shall keep their secrets, she shall obey their lawful commands. She shall do her master and mistress no hurt, nor wilfully suffer others to do it, but shall forthwith notify her s'd master and mistress; she shall not waste, lend or embezel their goods; she shall not commit fornication nor enter into matrimony; she shall not leave master or mistress, nor at any time absent herself from them without their leave granted. She shall in all things demean and behave herself as a good and faithful apprentice ought to do, during the said term of her apprenticeship. And the master and mistress shall teach or cause to be taught their apprentice to read English, so as to read the Bible, s'd master and mistress shall clothe their apprentice in a decent manner during s'd term and when her apprenticeship is finished they shall give her a new suit of apparel together with a new bed and bedding, and during her s'd apprenticeship master and mistress shall find and provide for her proper meat, drink and lodging.

Signed and sealed in presence of Putnam Catlin and Newton Smith.

Caleb Newman,
Benjamin Bailey.

FOUND INDIAN RELICS.

(Daily Record, July 8, 1895.)

J. Frank Smith in excavating along his property on Wyoming avenue, Forty Fort, unearthed the stone work of a cellar which seems to be a mystery. The stone work seemed well preserved and in the wall he found Indian moccasins, arrows, hatchets, and other Indian equipments. Mr. Smith prizes his find quite highly.

HARRISBURG'S NOTES AND QUERIES.

A new number, (No. 5, Vol. 2, 4th series) of Dr. W. H. Egle's Notes and Queries, published at Harrisburg has been received at the Record office.

On page 277 reference is made, (in a valuable series of articles devoted to the history of Sullivan county) to one Isaac Williams, who was taken prisoner by the Indians at the Wyoming Massacre, and kept in captivity six years. His grandson, Benjamin Tripp, was a Luzerne, (now Lackawanna) county man, who settled Pleasant Valley, Sullivan county, in 1855, whose children still reside in that county.

In same series, reference is made to another Luzerne county man who was a prisoner in Sullivan county. This was ——— Wilson, of Huntington who, in 1823, visited the headwaters of

Muncy Creek and afterwards located in the Elk Lick settlement. He was joined by others from Huntington. They engaged, among other things, in making maple sugar.

AN OLD TIME WATCH LABEL.

Upwards of fifty years ago our townsman William S. Wells who was a jeweler and watchsmith at that time, made it a custom to place inside the cover of every watch which he sold or repaired a little reminder of the owner's duty to his timepiece. There are some of our older people who still remember these lines and Mr. Wells is often spoken to on the subject. The inscription, which was of his own composition, was as follows:

William S. Wells,

Clock and Watch Maker.

Wind me with care and use me well,

And let me have fair play,

And I to you will try to tell

The precise time of day;

If from some cause I chance to stop

And fail to give the hour,

Then take me back to Wells's shop

And he will give me power.

Wilkes-Barre,

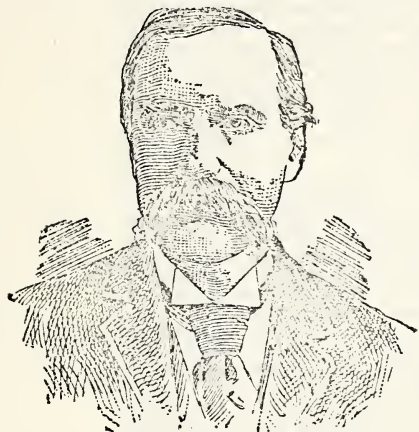
Pa.

DR. DAVIS'S DEATH.

Suffering with a rare disease which he knew to be incurable, Dr. Rees Davis of South Washington street has for many months been confined to his home awaiting, with a resignation and fortitude that robbed death of all the terror it has for some, the summons that came on Saturday morning, Aug. 10, 1895, at 7 o'clock.

Up to the time of his illness Dr. Davis was the picture of rugged health and he looked good for many years of life. After the death of his daughter Maude in 1892 he seemed weighed down by a sorrow that neither time nor circumstances could lighten and his closest friends attribute his illness to this extreme grief. His ailment was progressive muscular atrophy—a gradual wasting away of the muscles. About a year ago the disease manifested itself, attacking the muscles of the arms and neck and then those of the feet. The doctor continued, however, in the active practice of his profession until his condition became such that he could no longer manage to visit his patients. He then confined himself to office prac-

tice and continued for several months. About three weeks ago he was compelled to take to his bed and since then, conscious all the time, without uttering a word of complaint, and keeping those about him as cheerful as possible, he has awaited the end. His last public act was that of a good citizen, and was performed last November, when he went to the polls and cast his ballot. He was not out of the house since that time. His mind was bright and clear to the last. Ten minutes before he



drew his last breath Mrs. Davis was by his side and placed her hand upon his wrist. "You are counting my pulse," said the doctor. "No, that was not my intention," she said in reply. "Well, do so and let me know how it is." Mrs. Davis counted rapidly, as the pulse was then very high. The doctor noted its rapid action, and stopped her from counting. He understood the meaning. Ten minutes later he was dead.

Dr. Davis was 58 years of age, and was born at Warren, Bradford County, July 5, 1837. After being educated in the common schools of that place he prepared for college at Owego Academy and the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute at Towanda and attended Marietta College in Ohio for one year. He graduated at Hamilton College, in Clinton County, New York, in 1863. He then attended the medical department of the Michigan University for one year, and graduated at Bellevue Medical College in New York City in 1867. Dr.

Davis located in 1867 in Le Raysville, Bradford County, removed in 1869 to Scranton, and practiced there two years; settled in Wilkes-Barre in 1871, where he has practiced his profession ever since.

Deceased was a son of David and Elizabeth Davies, who were natives of Llanguicke, near Neath, Wales, and who emigrated to this country in 1831, and settled on a farm at Warren, Bradford County, Pa., where the old homestead still stands. The following children were born at the old home: John Davies, resides at Neath, Bradford County, Pa.; Mary, wife of Rev. John Davies of Dodgeville, Wis.; Philip Davies of Neath, Pa.; Evan H.; Annie, now the wife of Hon. H. Howell of Neath, Pa.; Hon. W. T. Davies, ex-lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania; Thomas, killed in a railroad accident at Mahanoy in 1881; Dr. Rees Davies of Wilkes-Barre; Elizabeth and Catherine Davies, who reside at the old homestead. David Davies, the father, died in 1882, and Elizabeth, the mother, died in 1856. Both were buried at Neath, Bradford County.

Dr. Davis married, in 1867, Maggie E. Williams, daughter of Philip and Harriet Williams of Pike, Pa., and four children were born unto them: Maude (died in 1892), Walter, now a medical student in the University of Pennsylvania; Harriet and Bessie.

Deceased was one of the most active members of the Luzerne County Medical Society, of which he has been president; was a member of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society, of which he was president in 1887; was a member of the Lehigh Valley Medical Society, and an honorary member of the Philadelphia Obstetrical Society. He has served as one of the staff of physicians of the Wilkes-Barre City Hospital from the time of its organization until his death. He has always been very active in eisteddfod matters and was one of the prime movers in the Oratorio Society and was president for six years of the Mendelssohn Society, which at one time flourished in Wilkes-Barre. He was chairman of the committee of the mammoth eisteddfod held in the old market house in 1875, and engaged Eos Morlais, the great tenor from Wales, to sing at that time and to give forty concerts throughout the country.

Dr. Davis was of such a quiet and retiring disposition that there are

many who have no idea of the real eminence to which he attained. He had a great mind—thoughtful, analytical and full of knowledge, and his brothers of the medical profession and others with whom he came in close contact have always regarded him as a man among men. Had he forced his way to the front, as others have done who have been prominently before the public, his name would undoubtedly have been heralded from one end of the country to the other. These are not the words of exaggerated post mortem eulogy, but are a well founded and truthful tribute to real worth and real genius. Said a prominent physician of this city last evening: "Without detracting from the eminence of this city's noted physicians living or dead, I must say that Dr. Davis, as a surgeon and as a physician, stood at the head of his profession." He was one of the leading surgeons of his time and was in some respects a pioneer in abdominal surgery for this part of the country. Not many years ago he performed a very delicate operation along this line, the first that had ever been attempted, and the results, although the chances were very desperate, were of the best. The notes of this operation, which Dr. Davis published in a pamphlet, were translated into many languages and gained for him an international reputation. He was recognized by leading specialists as worthy of the greatest distinction. He was also especially eminent as a diagnostician, both in medicine and surgery, and his opinion in serious cases was always regarded with supreme respect by those members of the profession who sought his assistance in consultation.

Dr. Davis took considerable interest in sanitary matters and one of his last commendable works was his telling efforts in behalf of water filtration in this city. He was appointed by the Luzerne County Medical Society one of the committee to urge upon council the necessity for filters for the city's water supply and he worked with great enthusiasm until the ordinance was passed in the face of stern opposition.

Those who enjoyed intimate acquaintance with Dr. Davis found delight in conversing with him. Not only in medicine, but upon a variety of scientific and other subjects he was well booked and reasoned with great intelli-

gence. Those who knew him best know how best to cherish his memory. Dr. Davis was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.

The funeral will take place on Tuesday at 2:30 p. m. The remains will be taken to the First Presbyterian Church, where services will be conducted by Rev. Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, assisted by Rev. E. J. Morris, pastor of the Puritan Church.

GEN. SAMUEL MEREDITH.

(Daily Record, July 10, 1895.)

Mrs. S. M. Meredith Graham of Tunkhannock has the distinction of being the granddaughter of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States, and a man who figured prominently in the stirring events of young America. The Merediths are natives of the county near Carbondale and recently when the agitation was at its height for the formation of a new county with Carbondale as the county seat Mrs. Graham addressed the mayor of that place setting forth some reasons why the new county should be called Meredith.

The letter Mrs. Graham wrote she has handed to the RECORD and is quite interesting as it stirs up incidents of historic value. She says:

"I am the granddaughter of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States, appointed by Washington, and the daughter of Maj. Thomas Meredith, who lived at Meredith Cottage, near Carbondale, and wife of Capt. W. G. Graham. I have no doubt there are some still in Carbondale who remember me as Sarah Maria Meredith. My father got the charter for the D. & H. railroad you have in your midst, years before it was used. I am much pleased that you should think of naming your new county after the general that fought for his country in the revolutionary war; was our first treasurer, who on his health failing retired to live so near you, at Belmont Manor, in Wayne County, near Pleasant Mount; and there is buried the friend of Washington when friends meant something, who aided and supported Washington in every way, paid the soldiers and clothed them out of his own purse, for he was wealthy and our country was poor. He gave \$10,000 in silver to carry on the war, he also loaned \$190,000

to the new government, which he never got back and we owe to him much of our standing as a free government. Samuel Meredith was born in Philadelphia in 1741 and was educated in Chester. His services date from 1765, when he attended the meeting of the merchants of Philadelphia to protest against the importation of teas and other goods which were stamped. He signed the resolutions which were adopted Nov. 7, 1765. On the 19th of May, 1772, he was married to Margaret Cadwalader of Philadelphia, daughter of Dr. Thomas Cadwalader, chief medical director of the Pennsylvania Hospital. He joined the "Silk Stocking Company" in 1775, and was made major. He distinguished himself in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and October, 1777 was commissioned general of the 4th Brigade Pa. Militia. The troops under Gen. Meredith performed excellent service at Brandywine and at Germantown. At the close of the war he was twice elected from Philadelphia County to the Pennsylvania Colonial Assembly. The Merediths—Reese, Samuel and Thomas—were trusted friends of Washington. Samuel Meredith and his brother-in-law, George Clymer, each contributed \$25,000 towards the support of the government, and that government, after all he has given to it, his life, money and statesmanship, has not even placed a monument over his remains. He was next appointed surveyor of the port of Philadelphia, served till September, when he resigned to accept the appointment of treasurer of the United States urged upon him by Washington. Treasurer Gen. Samuel Meredith entered upon duty at a time when the financial standing of the country was anything but encouraging; improvised by the expenses of war. The treasury was in a condition to need the most careful and conservative management, but Gen. Samuel Meredith's fitness for the trust was recognized by not only President Washington, but others prominent in the establishment of the government of the people. The following extract from a letter of Alexander Hamilton received at the time of Gen. Samuel Meredith's acceptance of the office is characteristic of the times, indicating the esteem in which the new treasurer's attainments were held: TREASURER'S OFFICE, New York, Sep. 13, 1789.

DEAR SIR—Permit me to congratulate you on your appointment as treasurer of the United States and to assure you of the pleasure I feel in anticipating your cooperation with me, in a station in which a character like yours is truly valuable. With sincere esteem I am ever your obedient servant.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON,

Sec'y of the Treas.

To SAMUEL MERIDITH, Treasurer of the United States.

Gen. Samuel Meredith served under the administrations of Washington, Adams and Jefferson, until October 31, 1801, when on account of his health he was obliged to relinquish the office and seek seclusion and rest. He retired to his country seat, Belmont Manor, a home situated on the hill side, about a mile west of the village of Pleasant Mount. There, surrounded with all the comforts that could be had in those times, with his dear wife and children, the patriot passed the closing years of a life of activity, amid peaceful surroundings. Belmont Manor was famed among the social lights of the young government for its hospitality, and there quietly they laid him to rest.

My father, Major Thomas Meredith, was born in Philadelphia in 1779. He was the only son of Gen. Samuel Meredith. He studied law with his brother-in-law, John Read, and was admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1805. He was prothonotary, register of wills and deeds for Wayne County from 1821 to 1823. He married in 1822 Sarah Gibson, and after his father's death on account of mother's health removed to Carbondale, where he built Meredith cottage a short distance from Carbondale. There he made his home till his death, which took place in Trenton while visiting my sister, Elizabeth Meredith Mynde.

Bishop Potter, when visiting us at Meredith Cottage, spoke to me of my father in a way I shall never forget. I was so proud to have him appreciated. Father, when a young man, visited Gen. Washington in Virginia and the general came to the door to see him off and urged him to come soon again. Father was in the war of 1812 and made major. My patriotism showed itself in giving my husband to the service in the last war. He was returned to me just alive. I think my country has had all from me that should be required,

and I have a right to ask why in these times when it is the rage to remember our generals and statesmen, why don't Pennsylvania remember her general who was born in Philadelphia, served his country so faithfully and was such a great statesman?

An unknown friend has just expressed my feelings, so I will add his mite—a great deal in a few words: "The grave of the friend of Washington, the patriot whose memory should be honored by every true American citizen with reverence almost equal to that accorded to the name of the father of his country, is to-day neglected and forgotten."

S. M. MEREDITH-GRAHAM,
Tunkhannock, Pa.

WYOMING MONUMENT PLOT.

It is not generally known who is the owner of the land on which is located the Wyoming monument. Originally on the farm of Fisher Gay it was set apart for monument purposes, and in 1864 the surface was deeded to the Wyoming Monumental Association, an organization of patriotic and public spirited women of the valley. The association was duly incorporated April 3, 1860, by the legislature and is perpetual, though no meetings have been held for many years. The association is powerless to dispose of the land under any circumstances. For several years the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society has maintained that the monument grounds belonged, in equity, to that organization, although the title had been made to the ladies of the Wyoming Monumental Association.

As a dozen or more of the original charter members of the latter organization are living, they are invited to meet at the monument on July 3 and renew their corporate life in whatever way seems best. As it has been practically a defunct organization, and as the Historical Society is likely to be permanent, it would be desirable to merge the two in some way, so that the Historical Society could be the actual custodians of the property. To be sure, still another organization, the Wyoming Commemorative Association, has since the centennial observance of July 3, 1878, kept the grounds in order, but it makes no claim of ownership and merely assumes the care of the monument grounds, as a part of its annual commemorative exercises.

The original charter members of the Wyoming Monumental Association, (in whom the title is vested,) are the following:

Catherine M. Jenkins,*	Elizabeth Hancock,
Jane E. Schooley,*	Sarah J. Atherton,
Maria Angell,*	Joanna Gore,
Emily Sturdevant,	Caroline Pettebone,*
Maria Shoemaker,	Mary Sweetland,
Ellen M. Jenkins,*	Ann Hunt,
Sarah Tripp,	Sarah Reilly,
Falla Breese,	Stella Shoemaker,
Catherine B. Sharps,	Susan Dorrance,
Sarah E. Atherton,*	Matilda Bennett,
Sarah Polen,	Sarah A. Schooley,*
Eunice Perkins,	Elizabeth Carpenter,*
Sarah Crawford,	Catherine Jones,
Phebe Jacobs,	Lydia Nolen,
Mary E. Jenkins,	Mary J. Coray,
Mary Richart*,	Jeannette Crawford,
Anna Hutchins*,	Caroline Goodwin,
Parmella Church,	Mary E. Breese,
Mrs. — Case,	Mrs. — Dennison,*
Ellen A. Law,*	Cornelia E. Hurlbut.*

Those marked with a star are known to be living and there may be others. At a recent meeting of the Commemorative Association it was unanimously voted that the survivors of the Monumental Association be invited to participate in the exercises on July 3, 1895.

WHO OWNS THE MONUMENT?

EDITOR RECORD: It is well that the RECORD has called the attention of the public to the ownership of the Wyoming monument. The legal title of the property is now in dispute. The land was granted in 1812 to Fisher Gay. Gay in 1865 transferred the land to Payne Pettebone reserving the monument half acre for the Wyoming Monumental Association, which association built the monument in 1841 and transferred its rights in equity in 1888, with its funds to the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. Pettebone conveyed this land with the same reservation, in favor of the Wyoming Monumental Association to Moses Wallis Woodward, April 29, 1856. Four years later the Wyoming Monumental Association, which now claims the monument, was incorporated, April 3, 1860. It had no existence when Pettebone made his conveyance to Woodward. But April 30, 1864, Woodward transferred the monument with the half acre of land to this new organization, called the Wyoming Monumental Association, under the reservation made by Gay

and Pettebone, thus "leaving out in the cold" the rightful owners of the monument, the organization of 1841. It requires no more than ordinary sense to see the character of this transaction, and one can hardly doubt that when the matter is placed properly before the Wyoming Monumental Association proper restitution will be made. The Historical Society side of the matter was made the subject of a very full report January, 1883, by the committee appointed by the society, viz: E. P. Darling, W. P. Ryman and Dr. Harrison Wright, three of our best lawyers, who declared that the *equitable* title to the monument has been vested in the Society for twenty-five years. (See publication of the Historical Society, No. 6, 1883, pages 21-33.

WYOMING.

It should be said that there is nobody "now claiming the monument site," and if the ladies are "unlawfully" holding possession, of course "restitution will be made." The ladies of the Wyoming Monumental Association have probably forgotten there ever was such an organization until reminded by the *RECORD's* recent article. The good ladies of the Monumental Association who survive are not avaricious and doubtless if there is any defect in title which they can correct they will be only too glad to do so. They certainly cannot do better than meet at the monument on July 3.—Editor *Record*.

WYOMING MONUMENTAL ASSOCIATION REORGANIZED.

In West Pittston July 9, 1895, five of the twelve surviving members of the original Wyoming Monumental Association met for a conference. They were Mrs. Schooley of Wyoming, Mrs. Schooley of West Pittston, Mrs. Charles Law, Mrs. Stephen Jenkins and Mrs. Carpenter. The association was organized in 1866, and it is the intention to reorganize it and hold yearly exercises.

Mrs. W. H. McCartney, regent of the Daughters of the Revolution, of this city, was present. After the meeting the party went to Queen Esther's rock at Wyoming, where C. I. A. Chapman staked out a piece of land surrounding the rock, which had been bought by the Daughters of the Revolution. It is proposed to place a steel fence around the rock to preserve it from relic hunters and to mark the place with a bronze plate.

AN INDIAN CAVE FOUND.

(Scranton Republican, July 29, 1895.)

It is many years since the red man bade good bye to Wyoming County, but scarcely a year passes that some relic of his former presence among its forest trees and around its mountain lakes are not unearthed. The latest find was at Lake Winola, where a cavern, the floor of which yielded arrow-heads, pestles and other flinty implements, was accidentally discovered. It is located directly under the bluff upon which the Winola House stands, with an entrance near the lake front and is reached by a narrow passage just wide enough to allow one person to pass comfortably. The passage runs into the rocks for about eighteen feet direct, then makes a sharp turn to the right six feet, where it opens into a rock bound room, the dimensions of which are 40x6 and eight feet high.

Even the oldest residents have no recollections of this cave, although the Princess' cave figures conspicuously in the Indian lore of that section, but was always thought to be a small jut in the rocks, which stands a few feet from the newly discovered cave.

An employe of the Winola House was making some improvements near the place when he was surprised to see his bar, with which he was removing stones and dirt, disappear from view. The matter was reported to landlord Frear, who immediately ordered a force of workmen to unearth the place, resulting in the discovery of the passage and the cave. Imbedded in the dirt that had been washed upon the stone floor was found nineteen whole and pieces of arrow heads and half of a pestle, or corn cracker. Six of the arrow heads were perfect types, but the others were broken or incomplete.

Manager Frear proposes to have the cave cleaned out and this fall he will make a close search for other openings which are thought to exist because of the hollow sound given forth by the surface rocks.

INDIAN RELICS AT WINOLA.

A letter from Lake Winola says that in making an excavation on the grounds of the Winola this week a large cavern extending over 100 feet has been opened. It has been visited by throngs of people and created considerable excitement. Many Indian relics of the ancient tribes who once dwelt here have been found.

HAKES FAMILY REUNION.

The Hakes family reunion was held this year at Syracuse, N. Y., Sept. 18, 1895, and more than 100 members of the family were present.

The president is Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre; secretary, Mrs. Gertrude Hakes Roath, of Norwich, Conn.; assistant secretary, Ola Hakes, Cortland, N. Y.

Solomon Hakes, who arrived in Rhode Island and was adopted one of the freemen in 1709, was the first American representative of this large and distinguished family. The immediate descendants of Solomon Hakes remained in New England and New York until about 1800 to 1820, when some of them came to Bradford, Pa. To-day representatives of the Hakes family may be found in every State in the Union except Maine and New Hampshire.

The largest numbers are in New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kansas and California. The family on both paternal and maternal sides is of English stock. In 1887 Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, of the fifth generation, published the genealogical record of the family (eight generations), having 1,500 names in the male line alone. The female line probably exceeds this number.

The longevity of the family in the male line for the last 150 years is exceptionally high. The list contains 35 who lived to 75 years, 26 to 80 years, 14 to 85 years, 9 to 90 years, 2 to 95 years, and 1 to 103 years. Nine out of a possible ten were soldiers in the war of the Revolution, twelve were soldiers in the war of 1812-15, and more than half a hundred in the war between the States.

Dr. Hakes, more than any one else, has been instrumental in inaugurating these reunions, and they have come to be extensive affairs. The first reunion was held at Niagara Falls nine years ago.

Dr. Harry Hakes delivered a lengthy address on the day of the reunion, referring to the relations of kinship, touched upon the future life, spoke about the end and aim of life, and expressed his thoughts in excellent language.

Webster Hakes of Chicago also made an admirable address.

There was music, a fine dinner and general family enjoyment.

CLARK FAMILY REUNION.

John Clark and wife came to Wilkes-Barre about 1783 or 1784, and lived about seven years on what is now North Main street, near Union. In 1791 he moved to Plains Township and settled on the farm where he died. His six children settled in different parts of the country—Aaron in New York State, Philemon at Bowman's Creek, in Wyoming County, on the farm where Orcutt's Grove camp meeting is now held, George in Ohio, Sybil, wife of David Doty, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County; Sally, wife of John Osborne, in New Jersey; John, Jr., in Plains Township, where he died in 1878. There are a large number of descendants of these settlers living in Wyoming, Lackawanna and Luzerne counties, who held a family centennial on the old Clark farm, in Plains Township, in 1891. John M. Clark, of Beaumont, Wyoming County; Lucy A. Kocher of Harvey's Lake and others of the family have arranged to have a family reunion and picnic at Harvey's Lake on Saturday, Sept. 7 this year, where the older members of the family may renew memories and the younger members become acquainted with each other and see their numerous "cousins."

UNPUBLISHED ANECDOTE OF

LINCOLN.

The telegraph reports the death at Chicago, Ill., of Senora Maria de Burton, widow of General Burton of the United States Army, and a claimant to vast estates in Mexico. There may be some Wilkes-Barre people who remember that shortly after the war General Burton and his wife spent a few months in Wilkes-Barre. Isaiah M. Leach recalls a story which was told him by the late Col. A. H. Bowman, who knew them intimately. There was a presidential reception in the White House, and in the throng were the general and his Spanish wife. The latter seized a favorable opportunity when President Lincoln was not engaged, to ask him to appoint some friend of hers to a place in the public service. "Why, dear madam," replied Lincoln, "it is really impossible. Places are very scarce, and I haven't been able to find any for my own relatives." "Oh, Meester Pres-e-dent," broken in the

army officer's wife, by way of repartee, "maybe zey were not com-pe-tenant." "By Jove," exclaimed the great Lincoln, his eye flashing with good humor, "you've hit the nail on the head the first time."

AN OLD STAGE DRIVER.

John Pruner of Tunkhannock celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday anniversary Sept. 6, 1895. Old timers will remember him as one of the best drivers of the stage line from Tunkhannock to Wilkes-Barre. The stage line was for many years the only public conveyance between the two places, supplemented later by the North Branch Canal, and now superseded by the Lehigh Valley R. R. Mr. Pruner is still vigorous, and can give many interesting reminiscences of the past in which he figured. He was an uncle of the late Gen. E. L. Dana of this city, and has many relatives in Wyoming and in Wilkes-Barre. He still thinks the stage superior to the railroad as a means of transit, although not so rapid, and is just as fond of a good horse as in the old days. He is Tunkhannock's oldest citizen, and wears his honors gracefully and modestly.

TWO BROTHERS 118 YEARS APART

Moses Chamberlain, now living at Milton, Pa., enjoys the distinction of being a brother of a man who was killed in battle 118 years ago. Such a thing would seem impossible at first thought, but it is a fact. Mr. Chamberlain is 83 years old, and was born 35 years after the battle of Germantown (1777), in which his brother, aged 18, lost his life. The latter was the oldest of 24 children, and Mr. Chamberlain is the youngest.

THE OLD STEAMER CODORUS.

The following is an article, somewhat condensed, from the York Gazette. The boat is referred to in our local histories, but Mr. Jordan's sketch throws much new light on the subject:

Some time ago, in the columns of the York Gazette, I gave a brief account of Phineas Davis and of his invention of the first coal burning locomotive steam engine ever constructed. In this account I incidentally mentioned the part he took in the building of

the first steamboat used upon the Susquehanna, called the Codorus. In response to numerous inquiries for a more specific account of the steamboat, I have since then made diligent search among records, and inquiry among the older inhabitants, and am thereby enabled to give the following original records of the steamboat called the Codorus:

The first public mention of the steamboat, Codorus, I find in the Gazette of Nov. 8, 1825, which says:

"The steamboat constructing of sheet iron, at this place, will be ready to launch this week. The boat has sixty feet keel, nine feet beam, and is three feet high. It is composed entirely of sheet iron, rivetted with iron rivets, and the ribs which are one foot apart are strips of sheet iron, which by their peculiar form are supposed to possess thrice the strength of the same weight of iron in the square platform. The whole weight of iron in the boat, when she shall be finished, will be fourteen hundred pounds. That of the wood work, deck, cabin, etc., will be two thousand six hundred pounds, being together two tons. The steam engine, the boiler included will weigh two tons, making the whole weight of the boat and engine but four tons. She will draw, when launched, but five inches, and every additional ton which may be put on board of her, will sink her one inch in the water.

"The engine is upon the high pressure principle, calculated to bear six hundred pounds to the inch, and the engine will be worked with not more than one hundred pounds to the inch. It will have an eight-horse power, and the boiler is formed so that the anthracite coal will be exclusively used to produce steam. The ingenuity with which the boiler is constructed, and its entire competency for burning the Susquehanna coal are entitled to particular notice, and the inventors, if they succeed in this experiment, will be entitled to the thanks of every Pennsylvanian.

"The boiler is so constructed, as that every part of the receptacle for the fire is surrounded by the water intended to be converted into steam; and thus the iron is preserved from injury by the excessive heat produced by the combustions of the coal. Its form is cylindrical; its length about six feet, and it will be placed upright in the boat, occupying with the whole engine,

not more than ten feet by six feet.

"The engine is nearly completed, Messrs. Webb, Davis and Gardner being its constructors. The boat, which is the work of Mr. Elgar, is in great forwardness. The whole cost of the boat and engine will be three thousand dollars."

On Nov. 15 the boat was finished, and was the occasion of not a little enthusiasm on the part of the citizens of York. The Gazette of this date says:

"The steamboat, which was built at this place, was drawn through our streets yesterday morning, on her way to the Susquehanna. She is placed on eight wheels, and such was the interest felt on the occasion, that notwithstanding being in weight more than six thousands pounds, the weather rainy and disagreeable, the citizens attached a long rope to her, and about sixty or seventy taking hold, drew her from the west side of the bridge to the upper end of Main street, amidst the shouts and huzzas of a multitude, such as used to dangle at the heels of Lafayette.

"She has been named after the beautiful stream on whose banks she was brought into existence—Codorus—a name, that should her destiny be prosperous, that will not in future be pronounced without associating the most pleasing recollections in the minds of the citizens of this place."

On the 22d of November following we find her launched in the Susquehanna.

"The steamboat, Codorus, is now in the Susquehanna with her machinery on board. A trial of the engine and works has been made, by which it is ascertained that by giving her only half the steam power, the boat is propelled against the current, and a strong wind, about five miles an hour. In the draught of water the calculation of the builders were correct, with forty persons on board her draught is not more than eight inches."

She next appeared at Harrisburg as stated in the Harrisburg Oracle, Dec. 3, 1825.

In the following Spring on April 12 we find the Codorus reaching Wilkes-Barre, an account of which is thus

given in the Wilkes-Barre Democrat of April 14, 1826:

"On Wednesday evening last, just as the orb of day was hiding in the West, we were greeted with the appearance of the steamboat, Codorus, turning the point below the borough. The discharge of cannon and hearty cheers of the people, mingling with the sound of martial music, and the peals of several bells, proclaimed the approach of the first steamboat that ever visited the shores of Wyoming. She cast anchor opposite the borough, a little before dark, in the presence of a crowd of spectators, who assembled to witness her arrival. Next morning a company of about sixty gentlemen boarded her at Wilkes-Barre, and sailed up to Squire Myers's at Forty Fort, about three miles distant. In the journey it had to encounter nearly a half a mile of strong ripples, and what is called falls. It performed the trip in one hour and eighteen minutes. After tarrying a short time she returned to Wilkes-Barre in thirty-three minutes, against a severe wind, with an increased number of passengers. At 11:30 she again anchored at Wilkes-Barre, and about 3 o'clock, Mr. Elgar, the principal of the boat, and seventy or eighty citizens, sat down to an excellent dinner, prepared by O. Porter. It is but justice to say the dinner was good, it was sumptuous. After dinner a number of appropriate toasts were drank, which will probably be published next week.

"This experiment entitles Mr. Elgar to much credit and esteem, and we heartily wish him a pleasant journey to the head waters of the Susquehanna, the place, we believe, of destination.

"The greatest difficulty to be encountered is in procuring wood, people along the river should have this article in readiness. Dry pine and pine knots are best and are plenty.

"Mr. Elgar, we understand, intends tarrying here until Monday, which will afford the inhabitants generally, an opportunity of witnessing the movements of a steamboat on the waters of the Susquehanna."

On May 8, 1826, she reached Bloomsburg, where her captain and crew were met by a committee who escorted them to the town, welcomed them with an address and a feast.

From May 8, 1826, until July 25, 1826, I can find no records of the movements of the Codorus. On the latter date we

find her again at York Haven and moored in the canal. Her captain had been employed for four months in voyages of exploration, presumably in the Susquehanna River without any fruitful results.

The anticipations of the promoters of this enterprise were not only unrealized, but so dissatisfied were the stockholding investors that it became a question among them to what use the steamboat could possibly be put in order to bring them any revenues at all.

On April 5, 1827, two years after her first launching, one of the stockholders writes to the Gazette as follows:

"Between \$2,000 and \$3,000 have been expended upon the construction of this boat, and from the use, or rather no use being made of it, after it was built, the question may rationally be asked for what purpose has this large sum been expended, or what was the object of building the boat? But I am in hopes some better use might be made of it, than suffering it to be dismantled, and becoming a prey to the corrosions of time. Suppose some of the stockholders were to employ some of the armen to tow it down to tide, where perhaps it might be applied to some useful purpose. Something could perhaps be obtained for it to be used as craft in the bay.

What ultimately become of the Codorus, I have been unable to find.

JOHN C. JORDAN.

Further Details.

Subsequent to the publication of the above the following letter of J. H. Morrison of New York, to the editor of the Gazette says:

"I have read your article and as I have been engaged for about fifteen years in writing a history of American steam navigation—both mechanical and commercial—believe I can fill the void your correspondent says exists, as to the whereabouts of the vessel between May and June, 1826.

"In June, 1826, the vessel had ascended as far as Oswego, and at a later date in the same month was at Binghamton, while about the last of June or early in July, she had ascended to the upper water of the Susquehanna as far as Tioga.

"There does not seem as though there was any record left whether this vessel was fitted with side wheels, or with a stren wheel similar to those on the Ohio river, though I am of the opinion the

later was the means of propulsion. The use of anthracite coal under the boiler does not seem to have been successful, as we find they were burning wood a few months after placing the vessel in service. Anthracite coal was not used for marine purposes with anything near approaching success for many years after the vessel was built."

A Baltimore paper in April, 1830, published under the head of "The First Iron Steamboat" the following regarding the Codorus:

"We have two or three times during the past year endeavored to set history right in regard to the place at which the first iron steamboat was built in America. The steamboat Codorus was the first iron steamboat built in the United States as has been repeatedly stated in this and other papers, and that boat was built some twelve or fourteen years since at York, Pa., by Messrs. Davis, Gunter and Webb, and John Elgar. The boat was intended to ply on the Susquehanna river and with that special object in view was so constructed as to draw about twelve inches of water with all her machinery on board. It was built at York, the hull altogether of iron, mounted upon wheels, and thus transported by horse power to the river and there launched, opposite Marietta. It made one or two voyages under Captain Elgar to the head waters of the Susquehanna, but small as was its draft of water it was too great at certain seasons for the bars and shallows of the river, and the enterprise was abandoned. The first iron steamboat, the Codorus, was afterwards brought to this city where after remaining some time was taken farther South to ply on some small river. Of its after destinies we have no information."

Ultimate Fate of the Codorus.

Ex-Mayor D. K. Noell of York writes this to the Gazette:

Editor Gazette:—Your correspondent the other day says he does not know what became of the iron-hulled steamboat Codorus after it had ceased running up and down the Susquehanna. I saw its ruins in 1831, lying on the banks of the river at York Haven just below the outlet lock of the canal at that place. The hull was in pretty good condition but the wood work had all been torn away. The boat was launched at Wrightsville and not at Marietta as your correspondent says.

D. K. NOELL.

WILKES AND BARRE.

Persons visiting the Historical Society building will be interested to see at the entrance a pair of rare engravings more than a century old. One portrays the English statesman from whom Wilkes-Barre is named, "the right honorable John Wilkes, Esq., Lord Mayor of the city of London," published in London in 1774 from a painting by R. E. Pine. The other shows the right honorable Isaac Barre, painted by C. G. Stuart, 1785, engraved by John Hall, engraver to His Majesty, and published in 1787.

Some photographs are these: The old Sinton corner, where the Wyoming Bank stands; Fort Rice, in Northumberland County, built in 1779; house on site of Fort Jenkins in Columbia County; Market street bridge built in 1820 and blown down in 1824; also later photographs of the bridge before the present structure was built. Portraits of Isaac S. Osterhout, Gen. E. L. Dana and Dr. C. F. Ingham; photograph of the magazine at Fort Augusta (Sunbury) as it now appears, together with a brick therefrom. In a note the donor, John M. Buckalew, says the brick for the magazine were hauled from Philadelphia to Harris's (now Harrisburg) in 1758, boated from there in batteaux to Shamokin (now Sunbury) same year and laid up as lining in the magazine of the fort by Col. Burd. The brick presented was taken out during the present year.

NEW EDITION OF BURNS.

A "Centenary Edition" of Burns, edited by Mr. W. E. Henley and Mr. T. F. Henderson, is to be printed by Messrs. T. and A. Constable of Edinburgh, and published in that city. It will fill four volumes, issued at intervals, of about three months in the course of this year and next. The first will consist of "Poems Published by Burns;" the second of "Posthumous Poems," and the third "Songs," all equipped with notes and illustrations. The fourth, "Songs, Doubtful Pieces, Addenda, Glossarial Index and General Index," will contain an essay on "The Life and Genius of Burns," by Mr. Henley. The text is the result of a collation of manuscripts and original editions, and the pieces will, as far as

possible, be arranged according to the dates of publication in their author's lifetime. The large accumulation of history, commentary and legend—much of it irrelevant—which has gathered about Burns's life and work will be reduced within narrow limits and relegated to a place apart.—London Athenaeum

CLYMER INFORMATION WANTED.

Editor Record: Will some one kindly inform me through the Record where stood the house of Henry Clymer? He resided here prior to 1820, was the son of George Clymer, the signer of the Declaration, a grandson of Thomas Meredith and a son-in-law of that Thomas Willing, who being twice invited, was twice moved by his conscience and his oath of loyalty to his king to decline to sign the Declaration of Independence. George Clymer, a brother I think of the foregoing, was a member of the first board of the Wilkes-Barre bridge directors, and a promoter and director of the first bank. G.

Sept. 3, 1895.

THE ANTI-MASONIC CRUSADE.

If old Elijah Worthington, who started an anti-Masonic newspaper in Wilkes-Barre sixty-three years ago, could have been in town Sept. 1, 1895, in the spirit, he would perhaps have been horrified, though maybe not, to find his son a full-fledged Mason. On Sunday a train load of Knights Templar returning from the Boston conclave were delayed in Wilkes-Barre several hours, in an effort to trace their baggage—a special carload of which had somewhere gone astray.

Among the pilgrims was C. M. Worthington, of Sterling, Ill., son of the Wilkes-Barre anti-Masonic editor of more than half a century ago. The son was greatly interested in the home of his father's labors.

The Anti-Masonic Advocate was started, as its name implies, at a time when the country was wild over the alleged abduction and murder of Morgan by the Masons, who, it was claimed, were driven to this step by the effort of one Morgan to expose the mysteries of the order to the gaze of a curious world. It is not at all certain that the Masons did abduct or kill Morgan, but they got the odium of it, and for several

years the country was torn asunder, socially, politically and financially, by the mad effort to disrupt the order. Mr. Worthington established his paper in 1832, and for four years it bitterly assailed the ancient fraternity. In 1838 Amos Sisty bought it, dropped the anti-Masonic feature and made it the organ of the Whig party. Mr. Sisty died in 1843, and was succeeded by Sharpe D. Lewis, who in 1853 sold it to William P. Miner, who changed its name to the Record of the Times, the title which the weekly Record still bears.

A copy for June 23, 1836, is before the writer of this article. There is nothing to show its antipathy for Masonry except the title and the fact that the editor carries at the masthead the ticket of the "Democratic Anti-Masonic Party of Pennsylvania." William Henry Harrison for President. The only advertiser of that date now advertising was the Wyoming Bank, which was announcing, as it has done twice a year ever since, for sixty-three years, that it was ready to pay its half-yearly dividend of 5 per cent. William H. Alexander, hotelkeeper, was advertising oats; A. O. Chahoon 500 sides of Spanish leather; Dr. E. L. Boyd had removed; C. B. Drake wanted fifty bushels of clean, white beans at \$1.50 a bushel; John Lawler (poor John of later years), wanted to dispose of a horse and wagon; F. Van Fleet wanted two apprentices for the hatting business; Chauncey Sherwood was informing the public that he had opened a "store at Buttermilk Falls;" Miss Sal-Me Jewett had returned from New York with ladies' hats "of the latest fashions;" Isaac S. Osterhout had a "cash store, corner of Main and Market, near the old meeting house;" Jacob Sinton and C. B. Drake both had "new goods;" a runaway slave was being advertised; Thomas Davidge wanted five or six journeymen shoemakers, "near Doct. Christel's Hotel;" Sylvester Dana, graduate of Yale, was in charge of the Wilkes-Barre Academy; "2,500 Mechanics and Labourers" were wanted on the Lehigh Navigation; Stephen P. Hill had spring and summer goods, also "the choicest liquors."

The papers in those days contained little or no home news, and this particular copy is no exception. The only bit of home news is the formal notice of the death of "Mary, only child of Martha and E. W. Sturdevant, aged 2½ years." Fortunately for the bereaved

parents, other little ones came to brighten their home in after years, and are now honored residents of town.

OLDEST BRICK BUILDING IN TOWN.

As to which is the oldest brick house in town, opinion varies as to whether it is the Perry building at the corner of Main and Northampton or the building occupied by Brown's book store on Public Square. The probability is in favor of the former. It is claimed to have been erected in 1806, while the other was not built till 1807.

AS TO THE OLDEST HOUSE.

(Daily Record, Sept. 6, 1895.)

Editor Record: In reference to the matter in yesterday's Record as to the Perry home, corner of Main and Northampton streets, being the oldest brick house in Wilkes-Barre, and probably built in 1808, it should be remembered that the Isaac Fell house, corner of Washington and Northampton streets, was the building where Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., after being instituted in Wilkes-Barre, February 19, 1794, held its meeting February 27, 1794, continuing there until 1804, when it rented a room in the court house, and then ceased to hold its meetings at the house of Judge Fell. In 1808 Jesse Fell, who was a member of Lodge No. 61, F. and A. M., having constructed a wrought iron grate, and set it with brick and mortar in his fire place, in the house now standing at the corner of Washington and Northampton streets, invited the members of the Masonic lodge to witness the remarkable discovery that anthracite coal would burn in the draught of a chimney. He wrote the following memorandum:

February 11th of Masonry, 1808—Made the experiment of burning the common stone of the valley in a grate in a common fire place in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clean and better fire, at less expense than burning wood in the common way. Jesse Fell.

February 11th, 1808.

WILKES-BARRE'S FIRST BRICK HOUSE.

With reference to the recent item in the Record concerning the first brick house in Wilkes-Barre, the following communication has since been received.

The date of the erection of the Perry house was learned from the late Miss Eliza Perry during her lifetime, her father being the builder of the house:

Editor Record: The brick house at the corner of Main and Northampton streets was built the next year after Mr. Slocum had built his house on the Public Square. The latter dates from 1806. Mr. Samuel Smith says 1808, but this must refer to its occupancy by the owner. The claim that the brick was brought from England may be received with grave doubts. Probably that used in the construction of both buildings in question had a common origin at Easton. Such was the source from which the brick was obtained during the construction of the Jenkins homestead at Prompton, built at the same period, or a trifle later, and they would not have hauled from Easton if it could have been obtained at Wilkes-Barre, neither would Messrs. Slocum and Perry have imported material if, as was the case, it could have been purchased at Easton. The dates 1806 and 1807 may be with perfect safety associated with these two oldest brick buildings in the city of Wilkes-Barre.

G. W. G.

THE MONTHLY HISTORICAL REGISTER.

This monthly gazette of all the patriotic hereditary societies for August is a beautiful number of 200 pages, and it shows a decided advance in merit since it started upon its career, just a year ago. The frontispiece is the beautiful insignia of the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, done in proper colors and embossed. The initial article is the continuation of "Lafayette's Visit to the United States in 1824-25," told in a sprightly way, with half-tone illustrations of some of the private houses at which he was entertained and portraits of his hosts on his way to visit Boston. It is a pleasure and relief to find a magazine devoting so much space to one who did so much for America, and was our friend in time of need and the nation's guest in later years, rather than taking the "Napoleonic fever." "The Traditions of Fort Jenkins," by Mrs. Mary Jenkins Richart, (wife of a former editor of the Pittston Gazette) tell again in a

new way the horrors of the Wyoming Massacre. The September number will contain the objects and requirements for membership of all the patriotic hereditary societies. The Historical Register Publishing Co., Philadelphia. Subscription price, \$3 per year.

QUEEN ESTHER'S ROCK.

The historic boulder at Wyoming, known as Queen Esther's Rock, was bought not long ago, together with a small piece of ground on which it stands, by the Daughters of the American Revolution. In order to prevent what little is left of it from being carried off by relic-hunting vandals, it is to be enclosed. Through the efforts of Charles Law, a steel cage has been constructed and donated by E. E. Hendricks, mayor of Carbondale. The cage is $6\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, 3 feet high, and will properly protect the stone. In order that the cage itself may not be carried off it will be fastened, as iron fences are fastened, by iron rods running down into blocks of stone below the frost line. These anchoring appliances are donated by Pennell Bros., of the Capouse foundry, Scranton. It seems a pity that the stone should not be removed to the monument enclosure, where it could be conveniently seen by visitors. Of course its site is historic, but as it is in a farmer's barn yard the environment is not particularly inspiring, even when all possible sentiment is added.

FIRST BICYCLE IN WILKES-BARRE.

Editor Record: In regard to John Tyler being the first bicycle rider in this county or the first to own one I would say that such was not the case.

The first owned and ridden in Wilkes-Barre was made and ridden by A. J. Louder and the idea was taken from the Scientific American. It had a wooden back bone and wheels. The foregoing were made by the writer from drawings made by Mr. Louder. He also made for his brother Frank the first tricycle owned in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Louder learned the machinist business at the Vulcan Iron Works and afterward became a practicing physician. I can furnish abundant proof that both of these wheels were made and used before Mr. Tyler's wheel came to Wilkes-Barre. Honor to whom it is due.

J. B. E.

BRANCHES OF THE GENEALOGICAL TREE.

A pleasant reunion of the Handricks family was held at the home of Mrs. Steven Tuttle at Springville, Susquehanna County Aug. 17, 1895. There were sixty-seven members of the family present among whom were Col. E. S. Handrick of Tunkhannock and R. T. Handrick, Frank Handrick and Miss Arline Handrick of Wilkes-Barre. The colonel is proud of the fact that of the sixty-seven of the Handrick blood present, ranging in age from 5 years upwards, all were able to register their names. The party enjoyed a great day of feasting and visiting and intend having their reunion annually hereafter.

DEATH OF MISS EMILY C. BUTLER

Early in the morning, Aug. 19, 1895, occurred the death of Miss Emily Cist Butler, at the home of her brother-in-law, Judge Stanley Woodward. She had been an invalid for several years, and has been seriously ill with anaemia for several weeks. Deceased was born in November, 1841, at the corner of South River and Northampton streets, the old Butler homestead, and was the youngest child of John L. and Cornelia Richards Butler. After the death of her parents she went to live with her sister, Mrs. Woodward. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and exemplified during life the beauty of an ideal Christian character.

AN HONORED CITIZEN.

(Daily Record, July 22, 1895.)

One of the most familiar figures on our streets is William S. Wells. From the fact that for twenty years he served as judge on the election board in the Fourth Ward, everybody calls him Judge Wells. He was born in Greenfield, Mass., eighty years ago, and came to Wilkes-Barre nearly sixty years ago. He was at that time in Northfield, a place that has since become famous by reason of evangelist Moody's school. He had learned to make brooms and jewelry in Massachusetts, and having a job offered him in a broom factory in Kingston, Pa., he set out, accompanied by two companions. As there were no railroads they clubbed together and bought a horse and wagon for the trip. Leaving

their horse at Fishkill, opposite Newburg, they took boat for New York to see the city. Judge Wells says that as he remembers Broadway it was not nearly so lively as are Wilkes-Barre streets on a Saturday night nowadays. Returning to Fishkill they resumed their journey, and from Port Jervis to Hyde Park (there was no Scranton then) was a vast wilderness. Between those two points they stopped over night at a tavern, and the landlord



apologized that he had no meat, although he could give them venison, deer being plenty. The meat was a novelty to them, and they ate it with a relish. Arrived at Kingston, they were astonished to see the people breaking black stone with a hammer and burning it for fuel. They had never seen coal before. Coming on to Wilkes-Barre they found only three brick buildings. In one of them, Hollenback's store, now Coal Exchange, Nathaniel Rutter was clerking.

Soon after, Mr. Wells married Jane A. Jackson of Kingston, a native of England. Her sister married Arnold Taylor of Kingston, a brother of Judge Edmund Taylor. The latter learned the saddlery trade from this brother, who was a victim of the prevailing epidemic of dysentery. The broom indu-

try was of short duration. Mr. Wells then engaged in the jewelry business and followed it ever after, until recently, when his modest little store had to give way to the march of improvements. He then settled down to a well earned rest.

Though an active Republican, he never aspired to office. He served for a while in the town council, was for three years jury commissioner, and during the census of 1890 he was appointed to collect the statistics of the manufacturing enterprises in Wilkes-Barre.

Judge Wells tells an interesting story about Rev. Father Hunt, who was so actively engaged in temperance work some thirty or forty years ago. Father Hunt was a Presbyterian and wanted to lecture in the Presbyterian Church, but as some of the leaders in the flock were selling whisky, permission was refused. He then applied to the Methodists, who also refused him, as "they considered themselves just as good as the Presbyterians." Judge Wells then offered Father Hunt the use of his second story porch, building adjoining present Ben Dilleys', and as the lecture was given in court week, there was an audience which blocked Market street from the Square to Franklin. It is needless to say that Father Hunt handled his subject without gloves. There was a protest against Mr. Wells's course, but he insisted that the cause was a good one and that Pappy Hunt should have a chance to be heard. He had been warned not to lend his aid in the matter, else his place would be rotten-egged or smashed in. However, he did not frighten, and when the lecture came off he stood up beside the speaker.

Mr. Wells has always been a temperance man, and he says he thinks it has added twenty years to his life, besides saving him money. He has never spent any money for tobacco or liquor and thinks it would be fair to allow about a dollar a day as the average amount spent by persons so using. This would be \$21,900 in sixty years, and at compound interest would be an enormous sum. But he never identified himself with any temperance society, church or other organization, though in sympathy with them all.

When the war broke out he was past the age for military service, but he took an active part in enlisting soldiers. He called a public meeting, had bills printed at his own cost, and posted

them about town, calling for enlistments. The court house was packed to overflowing and stirring speeches were made by Judge Conyngham, Col. Wright, Judge O. Collins, and others. It was a great uprising. He also got up a company of home guards, made up of men too old for enlistment. Among them were himself, Judge Conyngham, John Faser, Judge Collins and others, some forty in all, ready to march if duty called.

Judge Wells has lived to see not only his children grow up about him but his grandchildren, and even a generation of great-grandchildren, all of whom brighten and make glad the old age of himself and his good wife. May they long be spared.

The photograph from which the cut is made was taken several years ago and is therefore not as satisfactory as it would otherwise be.

VALUABLE COLLECTION OF INDIAN RELICS.

Many of our readers will recall the fact that H. C. Wilson of Mt. Vernon, O., formerly of Wilkes-Barre, was an enthusiastic collector of Indian relics, many of which were presented by him to the Wyoming Historical Society. At the time of his death he had some 4,000 valuable relics of the stone age, gathered by him during the years 1891 and 1892 in Knox and Licking counties, Ohio. His son, Dr. Edwin F. Wilson of Columbus, O., has lately presented the entire collection to the Ohio State University, which will now have upwards of 25,000 specimens, making it one of the largest in the country.

A HERO OF WYOMING.

An interesting pamphlet of recent publication is one from the pen of Rev. Horace E. Hayden of this city. Its purpose is to secure for one who gave up his life in the massacre of Wyoming such credit as has partially been denied him by reason of a distortion of his name. The hero who has had his name thus confused by the later historians is Major John Garrett, who is properly recorded on the monument in the list of the slain, but who in several of the more recent local histories is described as Jonathan Walte Garrett. The officer

who aided in the command of the right wing on that fatal 2d of July day was Major John Garrett, and he perished there along with his lieutenant colonel and five captains. Major Garrett was born in West Simsbury, Conn., in 1727 and was therefore 51 years old when he met his death. Nothing is known of his early life, beyond the fact of his marriage and the names of his children. He first appears in the annals of Connecticut as an officer in the militia in the town of Westmoreland. Owing to the many conflicts on the Wyoming frontier, claimed by Connecticut as a part of her domain, Connecticut in 1775 erected the town of Westmoreland into a county and created the 24th regiment of militia for its protection. As a full and accurate list of the companies and officers of this regiment, as organized in 1775, has never yet been published in any local history, the author reprints the full and correct list, as taken from the Colonial Records of Connecticut.

In 1776 when Congress called for two companies from Wyoming for service in the Continental Army, numerous changes in the 24th became necessary, as indicated in Mr. Hayden's pamphlet.

It has been often charged that Congress was oblivious to the perils which threatened Wyoming, and certainly there is just ground for that charge when we consider the withdrawal of the two home companies in 1778 for services at the front, but Mr. Hayden shows that in August, 1776, Congress voted to send ammunition and provisions to Wyoming for the companies of Ransom and Durkee, a fact not mentioned by the historians.

Major Garrett's first appearance in Wyoming was as one of the defenders against Plunkett's invasion in 1775, he having been dispatched by Col. Zebulon Butler with a flag to communicate with Plunkett as to the meaning of his hostile approach. At the battle of Wyoming in 1778 he nobly fell and his widow was one of the throng of fugitives who fled down the Susquehanna on rafts or in boats.

Mr. Hayden's pamphlet closes with several pages devoted to the genealogy of the Garrett family. It is a valuable contribution to local history and will serve to keep the future historians from treading the beaten path of their immediate predecessors and aid them in doing justice to one of the heroes of Wyoming.

WYOMING VALLEY.

Have ye heard of the valley, the valley serene,
Where the magic of nature is viewed in each scene,
And where to each scene more enchantment hath
sprung
From the tales and the songs that her children
have sung?

I will go to the vale, to the beautiful vale,
Where the notes of the wild bird are heard in the
gale,
Where the soul of the flower and the herb and the
pine
Will strangely and sweetly commingle with mine.

I will go to the fair Susquehanna and glide,
Forgetful of care, on the breast of her tide,
Where the wavelets that beat on her green shores
along
Will sing to my heart a sweet lullaby song.

I will go to the monument there by the stream,
Where the heroes of old in the solitude dream,
Where the sombre-plumed evergreens mourn o'er
the biers,
And sigh, and weep forth bright dewdrops for
tears.

I will go to the mountains and climb the high steep
Of wild Campbell's Ledge, where the clouds lie
asleep,
The abode of the thunderer, from whence he
awakes
When his arrows of fire o'er the valley he shakes.

I will go to the friends of my heart that have played
In the vale of Wyoming with me, and have strayed
At my side o'er the scenes that we loved and ad-
mired,
Whose light from my bosom hath never expired.

Again shall we haunt as we haunted of yore,
The mountains and hills and the river's green shore;
And whatever betide in the time yet to be,
Oh, the friends and the scenes of Wyoming for me!
—Richard T. O'Malley.

[The author of the foregoing stanzas is a young blind poet of Avoca and contributes frequently to the *Home Journal* (New York), to the *Pathfinder* (Washington, D. C.) and to several other similar publications. He is also author of a book of poems entitled "Wyoming and Indian Melodies," and is now about to launch forth another book entitled "Sonnets, Ballads and Other Poems."—Ed.]

EARLY AUTHORITY FOR POWDER MAKING.

In 1776 the Connecticut Assembly gave John Jenkins, of the town of Westmoreland, leave to build a powder mill within the limits of the county, then Litchfield.

WYOMING COUNTY RETROSPECT.

The re-indexing of the old deeds of the county has started innumerable inquiries among the curious, to which the following will be in part an answer:

James Brown was commissioned the first prothonotary and clerk of courts of Wyoming County by Governor David R. Porter, Nov. 12, 1842, and his bond, with Henry Stark and Jabez Jenkins as sureties, was approved by Judges William Jessup and Perrin Ross Nov. 26, 1842.

The first register and recorder was Ziba Smith, and he was commissioned and his bond, with Miner Kelley and Samuel Stark as sureties, approved at the same time with the prothonotary. Both were sworn into office by Isaac Bowman of Luzerne County, who was commissioned by Governor Porter for that purpose.

The first sheriff was Thomas Osterhout, who was commissioned Dec. 2, 1842, his bond, with David A. Bardwell, John Jackson and P. M. Osterhout as sureties, having been approved Nov. 23, 1842.

Washington Stansbery was commissioned coroner and his bond, with Samuel Stark and John Jackson as sureties, approved on the same dates with the sheriff.

William S. Jayne and Perrin Ross were commissioned as the first associate judges Feb. 25, 1843.

The first treasurer was Archibald Bannatyne, whose bond was approved March 28, 1843.

The first deed recorded in Wyoming County was from Thomas T. Slocum and Ann D., his wife, of Wilkes-Barre to Henry Stark for lots 33, 40 and 42 in Tunklannock Borough for the consideration of \$400.

On the 8th day of March, 1843, the deed for what is now the court house square was executed by Thomas D. Slocum and Ann D., his wife, to Gordon Pike, William R. Robinson and Henry Roberts, commissioners of Wyoming County, and their successors in office in consideration of \$1. The plot includes all the space between Warren and Slocum streets and between Marion and Washington streets. This was deeded "for the use and occupancy of the county" so long as it should be desired for use by them and no longer."

The first commission as justice of the peace in the county was issued to the late Dr. John V. Smith of Tunkhannock Borough April 11, 1843, and on April 15, 1845, Squire Sampson,

father of our present townsman of that name, was also commissioned a justice of Tunkhannock Borough.

On the 24th of November, 1848, Hon John Jackson, now a well preserved gentleman in his 85th year, living at Lagrange, was commissioned the third sheriff of the county. Gen. Jackson has been prominent in the affairs of the county ever since its organization. He was elected a member of the House of Representatives in 1876, and feels quite equal to filling the place again.

DIED IN TIOGA COUNTY.

Col. Gabriel T. Harrower, father of David C. Harrower of Wilkes-Barre, died Thursday, Aug. 15, 1895, at his home in Lawrenceville, Tioga County. The Herald of that place says:

Col. Gabriel T. Harrower was born in the town of Guilford, Chenango County, Sept. 25, 1816, but in his childhood moved with his parents to Lindley, Steuben County, N. Y., where the greater part of his active life was spent. The proverb "Blood will tell" never found a better illustration than in the case of Col. Harrower. His grandfather, Rev. David Harrower, emigrated to this country from Scotland, just prior to the Revolutionary War, was an earnest and successful Presbyterian clergyman, who missionized largely in New York and Pennsylvania, while his father, Benjamin Harrower, was largely engaged in farming and lumbering and widely known in business circles throughout the country, whose wife, the colonel's mother, was a daughter of Joshua Mercereau, a descendant from the French Huguenots, and served in the Revolutionary War under Washington and Lafayette. Mr. Harrower became in early life interested in the business of his father and as he grew to manhood developed great muscular strength and physical activity, which with an iron constitution enabled him to accomplish a vast amount of hard labor. As he reached his majority he became identified with the political questions of the day and in 1852 was elected by the Democrats sheriff of the county, serving the term of three years with great acceptance and efficiency. At the close of his term he returned to Lindley and resumed the manufacturing of lumber which, pushed by his tireless energy soon grew into an extensive and successful business. Under the old military law of the State he had been appointed colonel of a militia regiment and had become considerably skilled in the affairs of the "citizen soldiery." On the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion he was deeply interested in the maintenance of the government, and in 1862 was active in raising the 161st Regiment of New York Infantry, of which he was commissioned the colonel and assigned to the department of the Gulf, where his regiment shared in the perils

and fatigues of the famous Red River expedition under Gen. Banks. The settlement of his father's estate requiring his personal attention, he resigned his commission and returned home, bearing with him the esteem of his superior officers and the respect and confidence of his men as a brave, efficient and capable leader, some of whom were present at his funeral and bore in their arms the body of their old commander to its last resting place. In November, 1871, he was elected by the Republicans of his district to the State Senate, where he served a term of two years, at the expiration of which he resumed his former business. He subsequently removed to Elkland, Pa., where for a few years he engaged in farming; from there, on account of the increasing infirmities of age and failing health, he removed to Lawrenceville, where his last days were spent, beloved and honored by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, who were warmly attached to him for his whole-souled generosity, his large-hearted hospitality, his strong friendships, his genial spirit, his honest, upright life, his unswerving and unquestioned integrity. Even in his comparative retirement he kept abreast of the great questions and movements in public affairs and held the wide acquaintance with men cultivated in the days of his activity. Col. Harrower kept fast hold of the faith of his fathers, and had been for years a communicant in the Presbyterian church. When at home and until prevented by failing health, he was always in his place on Sunday. In his last sickness he was sustained by the patience of hope and the assurance of faith in that Almighty One in whom he trusted. His wife, four sons, Elijah S. and Frank of Antrim, Pa.; Gabriel T. of New York and David C. Harrower, a lawyer of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and two unmarried daughters at home survive him.

On Saturday afternoon, Aug. 17, a large number of neighbors, friends and companions-in-arms assembled at his home and devoutly carried his body to its burial.

THE LATE SILAS FINCH.

Silas Finch, an old and well known resident of this city, died Tuesday, July 2, 1895, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. P. L. Hoover, on Susquehanna street. Mr. Finch was 82 years of age.

Mr. Finch was one of the pioneers of Wyoming Valley and came here with his parents when this part of the country was inhabited by only a few people. He was born in Albany, N. Y., in December, 1812, and when he was two years old the family made the journey to this county partly by wagon and partly on foot. The father was Darlus Finch. Deceased attended the school of Mr. Dowe, at the corner of South and Franklin streets, where Dr. Young's

residence now is, until he was 14 years of age, when he left school to learn the stone mason trade, which occupation he followed until about eighteen years ago, when he took charge of the freight hauling business formerly conducted by his son-in-law, William H. Shepherd. Mr. Finch continued in this business until 1888 or 1889, when he disposed of it to H. H. Hockenberry, since which time he has lived a retired life.

Mr. Finch was married in 1833, to Miss Minerva Horton, and they had the following children: Edwin Wallace, captain of the Wyoming Artillerists, who served throughout the war, returning with the rank of lieutenant; Mrs. William H. Stephens, Irvin E. Finch, the well-known boatman; Mrs. P. L. Hoover, and Mrs. Adelaide M. Finch. The last three survive.

Deceased was a member of the M. E. denomination since he was 16 years old and died a member of Central M. E. Church. His religious convictions were deep and he lived in accord with the best and purest in life.

DEATH OF CORNELIUS ROBBINS.

Cornelius Robbins, a life-long resident of Wyoming Valley and a resident of Kingston for forty-eight years, died at noon Wednesday, Aug. 7, 1895, at the advanced age of 85 years. He enjoyed good health until this spring, when his health began to fail.

The deceased was born in Hanover Township on Jan. 21, 1810. In 1830 he was married to Miss Hannah Wiggins of the same place, who died in 1873. After his marriage he removed to Owego, N. Y., where he resided until 1847, when he removed to Kingston. In 1861 he enlisted in the 58th Regiment, P. V. He served three years, when he was taken with yellow fever and sent to a hospital in North Carolina, from where he was discharged in 1863. He was the father of five children, of whom one son, John Robbins, died while serving his country in the late war. The surviving children are: Abner of Scranton, Elias and Mary of Kingston and Mrs. Etta Pierce of Green Ridge. He was a member of Conyngham Post, 97, G. A. R., of Wilkes-Barre.

Cornelius Garrison, Mr. Robbins's grandfather on the maternal side, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a native of Alsace and came to this country in 1776 as a French soldier. After the revolution he came to Han-

over and settled. Here he met and married Miss Mary Snover and they made their home on the back road near Sugar Notch. In 1825 he was killed by being thrown from his wagon in a runaway.

THE LATE MRS. SLOCUM.

Mrs. Ann Dennis Slocum, widow of the late Thomas Truxton Slocum of Tunkhannock, Wyoming county, died at her home, Platte Canou, Colorado, on Monday, July 1st, 1895, after an illness of over eight months, aged 82 years, as already stated in the RECORD. Mrs. Slocum was the eldest daughter of the late John Jacob Dennis and Abi Kirk Fell of our town. She was born November 1, 1813. She leaves four children, Mrs. Abi Titcomb, Benjamin Slocum, Ellen Maria Strauss and Norman James Slocum, all married and living in Colorado. John Jacob Dennis, her father, was a native of Berks county, Pa., and a great grand son of Hon. Samuel Dennis of Woodbridge, New Jersey. He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1800 and there married Abi Kirk Fell, daughter of Jesse Fell, associate judge of Luzerne county.

OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

Garfield, Md., Aug. 11, 1895.—Planner Crockett died on Sykes Island yesterday. He was 102 years old and his wife is 96. He was never sick a day and never took medicine. He was the father of fourteen children, five of whom survive him.

FIFTY YEARS A MINISTER.

(From the Scranton Truth, Aug. 2, 1895.)

Rev. G. M. Peck, the venerable pioneer Methodist minister of this valley, will on next Sunday celebrate the semi-centennial of his work in the ministry, and will preach at the Providence M. E. Church. There are few other men in this vicinity who can so well tell from actual experience the changes that have taken place in Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys in the half or rather three-quarters of a century.

Rev. George M. Peck was born April 17, 1820, at Forty Fort, over seventy-five years ago. His father, Rev. Dr. George Peck, was the pioneer Methodist minister in this section of the State. Mr. Peck was the eldest son of Dr. Peck, and when 5 months old he was taken by his mother to Salem, Wyoming County, where Dr. Peck had then assumed a new charge. This was

in the days before steam roads were known, and the three, father, mother and child, traveled in a Pennsylvania wagon with a canvas cover, the customary equipage of those early days.

When 7 years of age his father removed to Wilkes-Barre, where he assumed charge of a church. When 9 years of age he first saw a railroad. It was the old gravity road at Waymart, and it was the days of the Stourbridge Lion, the first locomotive that was ever run in the United States. Mr. Peck studied theology at the Methodist Theological Seminary in Cazenovia, N. Y. In 1839 he left Cazenovia and came down the valley back to Forty Fort. He was stationed at his father's place, where the Harry E. colliery is now. This was the western end of the property of his grandfather, Philip Myers, who settled there after the Revolution. In this year he married Miss Sarah Butler, of Pompey, Onondago County, N. Y.

On Aug. 4, 1845, he joined the United Conference of the Methodist Church, which then met at Utica, N. Y. From the lower end of this the Wyoming Conference was formed seven years later. He was assigned to Salem and made the same journey from Forty Fort over the same road, where twenty-five years before he was taken in his mother's arms. Mr. Peck was for two terms stationed at Salem and spent seven years in Wayne County. In 1852 he was sent to Pittston. At that time his father was stationed at Wilkes-Barre and both father and son administered to the spiritual needs of all the Methodists from Nanticoke to Scranton. Dr. Peck's charge reached from Nanticoke to Plains and his son's from Plains to Scranton.

Mr. Peck was subsequently stationed at Providence, where he was for two terms. During his first term his charge included Dunmore also. He now, since his retirement, worships in the Providence Church.

Rev. Mr. Peck was stationed for one term at Carbondale and subsequently spent two years at Green Ridge and Park Place charge. It was at Green Ridge in 1882 that he closed his active work in the ministry. Since then he has not entirely retired from the Master's work, but occasionally even now preaches at the many churches where he is invited and where he is anxiously sought after.

In 1866, '67 and '68, Mr. Peck was presiding elder of the Lackawanna District. He is therefore familiar with all

the churches in this section of the State and is held in the highest esteem and veneration by all the Christian people of this valley.

During these many years of his active life Rev. Mr. Peck has seen great and wonderful changes in this city.

In those days the circuits were larger than they are now. At one time Mr. Peck drove thirty miles in the afternoons of three successive days every other week. After services he drove to his home. This necessitated pretty fast driving. "When a young man," Mr. Peck said, "I always liked to drive a fast horse; and I could not see why in doing the Lord's work I should not be just as anxious to drive as fast as when I rode for business or pleasure."

Mr. Peck with his estimable wife and his devoted companion in all these years of service in the vineyard of the Lord, enjoy the quietude of his later days and the rest from his long labors in his pleasant home at Green Ridge. Not far distant live his two sons—William H. Peck, cashier of the Third National Bank, and Luther W. Peck, cashier in the Globe store. Another son, Merit B. Peck, resides at Indianapolis. His brother, Rev. Merit B. Peck, also a retired minister, lives at 203 Chestnut street.

Though in his seventy-fifth year, Mr. Peck is yet active and ambitious to further the work of the Lord. He has spent his energies in doing good, in consoling the afflicted, in comforting the unhappy and in bringing the light of God's truth to those wandering in the darkened ways of error and of sin.

EARLY POSTAGE RATES.

Postage was a luxury in 1816. It cost 6 cents to send a letter 30 miles; from 31 to 80 miles, the charge was 10; from 81 to 150 miles, 12½ cents; from 151 to 400 miles, 18¾ cents; and over 400 miles, 25 cents. These rates were in force until 1843, when Lysander Spooner of Boston decided to run a mail route between Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore in opposition to the government. He contended that the government had no constitutional right to prevent private individuals from carrying the mails, so he established his route, charging 5 cents per letter.

The legal part of the question seems never to have been decided, but congress appears to have reduced the postal rate chiefly to avoid competition. Under

der 300 miles 5 cents; over 300 miles, 10 cents, and drop letters 2 cents.

This rate held for six years, when the 3-cent prepaid rate for 3,000 miles was established. If the postage was not prepaid 5 cents was collected of the person who received the letter. For a distance of over 3,000 miles the rates were doubled.

In 1883 letter postage was again reduced to 2 cents per half ounce, and in 1885 to 2 cents per ounce.—Kate Field's Washington.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held Feb. 25, 1895, Judge Woodward presiding. The committee on memorial on the late Sheldon Reynolds was continued.

The corresponding secretary read a letter from John M. Buckalew of Fishing Creek, one of the commissioners appointed by the governor to locate the Revolutionary forts; also sending a photograph of Fort Rice, Northumberland County, and another of the house standing on the site of Fort Jenkins, Columbia County. The former, built in 1779, is the best preserved specimen of Revolutionary forts in existence in Pennsylvania.

Voted that the society consider the matter of publishing Mr. Reynolds's history of Wilkes-Barre, published in the United States census.

Voted that the corresponding secretary and librarian be appointed to secure preparation and reading of historical and scientific papers at the meetings.

Voted to correspond with the Connecticut Historical Society relative to Susquehanna manuscripts in the latter society's possession.

Acknowledgment was made of a valuable set of publications of the Canadian Archives, having references to the history of the Six Nation Indians.

The corresponding secretary read a letter relative to a conference at Hartford in May, 1763, between the Connecticut authorities and deputies of the Six Nations, who were protesting against the proposed settlement of the Susquehanna region. The writer of the letter, Cyrus S. Bradley, of Southport, Conn., is seeking information about the conference in question, it not being referred to by any of the historians, so far as appears. Following is an extract:

On May 28, 1763, there was a conference at Hartford between deputies from the Six Nations, who came to protest against the proposed settlement of the Susquehanna lands, and the governor, council and assembly of Connecticut Colony. I have now in my hands for publication the minutes of that conference and I wish to obtain all the information which has been preserved concerning it. I have been able to find thus far but one direct reference to the matter and that is in a letter of Sir William Johnson, who sent an interpreter with the Indians. (Documents rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y. VII, 522). Letters of Sir William Johnson and Rev. Eleazer Wheelock (Documents IV, 203, 206) and a note in Palfrey (Hist. of N. E. V, 302) throw some light upon the subject.

The following persons were elected to membership: Burton Voorhis, Miss Grace Derr, Gen. E. S. Osborne, Mrs. Stella H. Welles, Miss Emily Cist Darling, R. Van A. Norris, Edward W. Sturdevant, Charles W. Lee, P. Butler Reynolds, Col. E. B. Beaumont, Thomas Darling, Dr. W. S. Stewart, George P. Loomis, Mary L. Bowman, G. M. Harding, Frank Puckey, A. G. Fell, George B. Hillman, J. B. Woodward, Moses W. Wadhams, Dr. H. Newton Young, Alexander Farnham, William Sharpe, Mrs. Josephine W. Hillman, Col. C. Bow Dougherty, William F. Dodge, George H. Flanagan, Anna Miner Oliver, Miss Ellen E. Thomas, Edwin H. Jones, R. C. Shoemaker, C. J. Shoemaker, Charles F. Murray, Jennie DeW. Harvey Maynard Bixby.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING.

After being closed for the summer, the Historical Society building will be open to the general public hereafter, on Wednesdays from 2 to 5 and on Saturdays from 7 to 9. During the summer Rev. H. E. Hayden, who is now in charge of the building, has made numerous changes in the interior arrangements. Persons entering the building will notice that the portrait of Dr. Harrison Wright has been given a more prominent position in the audience room, and in its place have been put rare old engravings of the two English statesmen of the Revolutionary period for whom Wilkes-Barre is named. Near them is a portrait of the Chevalier de Luzerne, for whom our county is named, together with his castle in France. Donated by the late E. B. Cox.

Among other curios are these:

* * Watch imported from London, 1709, made by John Waters, London, and owned by Rev. Eliphalet Adams, ancestor of present owner, Mrs. A. R. Brundage.

* * Check on the Bank of the United States, Conyngham, Nesbitt & Co., 1799, the firm that donated Washington a shipment of pork for his starving army at Valley Forge. The Conyngham was David H., father of the late Judge John N. Conyngham. Presented by P. M. Carhart.

* * Guidon of the Wilkes-Barre Grays, 1861, carried by Hendrick B. Wright, Jr., loaned by George R. Wright.

* * A manuscript volume, being the daily orders issued by Gen. Washington, as written by Lieut. Thomas Hayden, adjutant of the 17th Regiment, colonial troops under Col. Jedediah Huntington, 1776, and an officer under Col. Zebulon Butler in 1777. The same is accompanied by Lieut. Hayden's watch, worn by him in service and the ink horn from which the orders were written. Also five commissions and discharges of Lieut. T. Hayden.

* * Portrait of Col. Timothy Pickering, first prothonotary, register, recorder, clerk of court of Luzerne County, 1787 to 1790, and member of Washington's cabinet.

* * Portrait of Gen. William Ross (1761-1842) who was with Zebulon Butler at Exeter July 2, 1778, private in Col. John Franklin's company, 1780, general in militia and State senator; the sword in the portrait is that given him by the Council of Pennsylvania for gallantry in rescuing Col. T. Pickering in 1788, at which time Gen. Ross was severely wounded in the conflict between the Pennamites and Connecticut people.

* * Picture of the house built by Col. Zebulon Butler about 1779 and taken down in 1867 to make room for the present residence of Judge Stanley Woodward. In this building the first court was organized.

* * Photograph of the old Hollenback corner, built 1817-19 and now the site of the Coal Exchange.

* * Engravings of Lord Butler and Ann, his wife. Loaned by Miss Julia Butler.

* * Portrait of Rev. Nicholas Murray, D. D., (1802-1861) pastor of the First Presbyterian Church from 1829 to 1833, and brought into prominence by his "Kirwan" articles.

DEATH OF ECKLEY B. COXE.

In the death of Hon. Eckley B. Coxe at Drifton Monday morning, May 13, 1895, Luzerne County not only loses one of its most prominent citizens, but the State and the nation lose a patriotic and whole-souled citizen, a benefactor to mankind in more ways than one, and one of those men whose immense wealth does not rob them of the noblest attributes. By the man of wealth as well as by his humblest workman he was looked up to and esteemed, and however great his responsibilities his presence was always like a ray of sunshine. He passed through crises such as have brought many a capitalist into supreme disfavor, but he emerged from them all retaining the good will of all those about him.



Mr. Coxe was 56 years of age—in the prime of manhood. Ten days ago a cold he contracted developed into muscular rheumatism, which later became complicated with pneumonia, and although the eminent physicians at his bedside did not regard his illness seriously until a few days ago, he became steadily worse until the pall of death fell not only upon the household in which he was

greatly loved, but upon the whole community as well.

Deceased's ancestor, Dr. Daniel Coxe, came from England in 1702, and was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Eckley, of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Dr. Coxe subsequently became governor of West Jersey, and died in 1730. His son, Col. Daniel Coxe, was born in 1663 and died in 1734; his son, William, was born in 1723 and died in 1801; his son, Hon. Trench Coxe, was born in 1755 and died in 1824, and his son, Judge Charles S. Coxe, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, July 31, 1791, and died November 19, 1879. Deceased was born in Philadelphia, June 4, 1839. Hon. Trench Coxe, grandfather of deceased, was commissioner of internal revenue under President George Washington and was well known as a statesman, author and financier.

Eckley B. Coxe graduated from the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia in 1858, and supplemented the classical course with one in the sciences. He then spent six months in the anthracite coal fields looking himself on mining, and then went to France and studied the mines of that country, going also to Saxony, England and other European countries and studying the mining methods in each.

Having thus had as thorough a preparation for the work of his life as a man can have, he returned to the United States, and with his brothers formed the firm of Coxe Bros. & Co., which has become the largest individual mining firm in the coal fields. When coal was discovered, and even when a majority of people doubted the utility of the black, stony material that was very hard to burn, Hon. Trench Coxe, grandfather of deceased, bought nearly 80,000 acres of land in the vicinity of Mauch Chunk and Hazleton, where coal was known to exist, and these immense tracts of land, richly underlaid with the dusky diamonds, were inherited by the young brothers when they set to work mining. The works were started in 1865 and coal was first shipped in June of that year from Drifton. A second breaker was built at Drifton in 1876 and in 1879 mines were started in Black Creek Valley, Derringer, Tomblicken, Gowen. In 1881 mines were opened at Beaver Meadow; in 1886 at Eckley; in 1887 at Stockton and Oneida. The operations having assumed immense proportions the firm, in 1890, began

the construction of a belt line railroad, the D., S. & S., to tap all of its collieries, and this was completed five years later, being over fifty miles in length. This gave the firm advantages independent of the railroad companies and was a great stroke of enterprise. The equipment of the road is one of the best in the country. Within the last year arrangements were made with the Valley Co. by which the Coxe Bros. used their own cars and locomotives in hauling their coal to tide, going on the Valley tracks where their own line terminated. The machine shops at Drifton are as complete as any in the country, the company manufacturing every piece of machinery used at the mines and on the railroad except some of the locomotives.

Several months ago Mr. Coxe, desiring more freedom and wishing to be relieved from some of his multitudinous responsibilities resigned the presidency of a number of the companies with which he was connected and the affairs were given in charge of an experienced man from New York.

In other walks of life Mr. Coxe attained quite as much prominence as in the physical development of the coal trade. He was one of the most noted members of the American Institute of Mining Engineers and was its president from 1878 to 1880, was a well known member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and of the American Society of Civil Engineers. In 1872 he published a translation of Muchbach's Science of Engineering and Construction of Machines, and his lectures on scientific subjects did much for those interested in those branches.

As an inventor Mr. Coxe also attained distinction. He was always experimenting with a view to simplifying the methods for mining coal, and his patents along this line number many. Principal among them are a device for separating coal from slate, doing away with slate pickers; a grate for burning culm, etc. He built the first iron breaker in the coal fields at great cost. His chemical and mechanical engineering experimental works, and his scientific library room, containing over 12,000 volumes and nearly 6,000 rare manuscripts and pamphlets in English, French and German, together with some rare old books, are objects of interest at his Drifton home.

Had Mr. Coxe chosen to enter more actively into the domain of politics he would probably have made for himself an enduring reputation in this line also, but the offices he did accept were filled with credit to himself and to his constituents. In 1880 he was elected to the State Senate from this district as the Democratic candidate but declined to take the oath of office on account of the article in the State constitution relative to necessary campaign expenses. His action created much surprise, but his address of Jan. 4, 1881, in which he gave his reasons for acting as he did, was entirely satisfactory to his constituents and so much confidence did they have in him that they re-elected him to the office in 1881 by a majority more than three times as large. Many prominent politicians in 1882 urged him to be a candidate for governor, and although he permitted his name to be used before the convention he withdrew it and urged his supporters to go over to Robert E. Pattison, who received the nomination. He was a valuable member of the Democratic State committee, and in 1884 was chairman of the Pennsylvania delegation of the national Democratic convention at Chicago which nominated Grover Cleveland. He was always an enthusiastic supporter of the Democratic party.

Mr. Coxe made his home at Drifton for many years in the midst of his thousands of employes, by whom he was honored and respected as few men are. One of the advantages he placed before his employes was the establishment about a year ago of a mining and mechanical institute at Drifton for the purpose of educating young men for scientific and mechanical pursuits. It is estimated that his individual wealth amounted to at least \$3,000,000 and he was liberal with his means. During the year he gave \$10,000 to the State hospital at Hazleton, besides making improvements; gave \$5,000 for an addition to the Laurytown almshouse and gave large sums to many institutions, especially Lehigh University, of which he was a director. Mr. Coxe was also appointed by Governor Pattison president of the commission to report some device for utilizing culm and he submitted an important report recently. He was vice president of the Mining Congress held in Paris in 1889 and was a director of the Philadelphia & Reading R. R.

Mr. Coxe was married thirty-seven years ago to Miss Sophia G. Fisher of Philadelphia, who survives him.

DEATH OF J. W. ENO.

J. W. Eno, a member of one of the oldest American families and one of Wyoming Valley's most prominent citizens, died at his home in Plymouth Tuesday, June 11, 1895. Mr. Eno has been ill the past year, but only a few weeks ago he had to take to his bed. Last Saturday he rallied somewhat and his family began to entertain hopes of his recovery, but on Sunday night he was taken suddenly worse.

During Mr. Eno's long and eventful life he has been identified with all of Plymouth's earliest industries and was always a leading mover in anything that would promote the welfare of the town or its people. Squire Eno, as he was familiarly known, was a Republican in politics, though not partisan. He was many times named by his party and in 1861 served as internal revenue assessor under the martyred President Lincoln.

Josiah W. Eno was born Feb. 23, 1820, in Simsbury, Conn. He was a son of Chauncey Eno, and descended in the sixth generation from James Eno, who emigrated to Windsor, Conn., in 1646, and later settled at Simsbury. Josiah remained on the farm, which was an original grant to his ancestors, until he was 16 years of age. Not caring for rural life, he went to New York, where he secured a position in a wholesale dry goods house, the proprietors of which were Amos R. Eno and the late John J. Phelps, two of the best known merchants in the metropolis. In 1842 he came to Wilkes-Barre and engaged in the mercantile business about where the Marx Long property now stands. He was also the first tenant of the building now occupied by W. M. Miller & Co. A few years later he went into the coal mining business at Pittston. It was about this time that the canal was opened and he was consequently one of the pioneer coal operators of Wyoming Valley. In 1855 he moved to Plymouth and engaged in various mining industries with Hon. John J. Shonk. In 1857 he built the coal breaker in that section, which is now known as the D. & H. No. 4, and operated it until 1861, when he was appointed internal revenue assessor by President Lincoln. In 1866 he engaged in the real estate business and was one of the organizers of the organization known as the Plymouth Land Co. Land where the principal

business places of Plymouth now stand was purchased by this company for speculation and it proved a profitable investment for the speculators. Mr. Eno was held in the greatest esteem by the Republicans of the town he did so much to build, and in 1867 was elected justice of the peace, which office he held until 1894, when on account of failing health he was forced to resign. He was also one of Plymouth's first burgesses, serving four terms in that office. He was a leading spirit in religion, and always took a keen interest in anything appertaining to the welfare of the church. He was a charter member and for many years trustee of the Presbyterian Church of Plymouth.

Mr. Eno was married Jan. 23, 1851, to Louisa B. Glassell of Virginia, who still survives him. There are also surviving two children, W. G. Eno of this city, secretary of the traction company and a member of the insurance firm of Bidle & Eno, and Mrs. Palmer Campbell of Hoboken, N. J. Mr. Eno has one brother living, Chauncey Evelyn Eno, of Simsbury.

DEATH OF D. G. SLIGH.

Sunday, Aug. 25, 1895, at 1 o'clock occurred the death of D. G. Sligh, an old and respected resident of this valley, at the home of his son Frederick, 75 North Main street. The deceased was born in Wellsboro, Tioga County, Sept. 24, 1816. In 1843 he removed to Carbondale, thence to Archbald and Hyde Park. In 1858 he located at Kingston, where he resided until the death of his wife two years ago. Since then he has resided with his son in this city. For the past three years he has been in poor health. He was one of the oldest living Odd Fellows and Free Masons in Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys. He was a charter member of Archbald Lodge, I. O. O. T., which was organized in 1845. He became a member of the Masonic order in 1849. On May 20, 1838, he was married to Susan Fuller at Carbondale and they lived happily together for 55 years. The deceased is survived by one son, Frederick Goodwin Sligh, with whom he lived.

ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS.

Mrs. Mary Meixell, mother of Mrs. Lewis Morgan of Luzerne Borough, died at the home of her daughter Wednesday morning, Aug. 28, 1895. Mrs. Meixel was 98 years of age and for the past nine years has made her home with her daughter. She was always active and enjoyed good health until ten days ago, when she was seized with inflammation of the lungs and suffered greatly.

 DEATH OF MRS. SARAH ATHERTON HENRY.

Mrs. Sarah Atherton Henry died at her home in Wyoming July 23, 1895, at the ripe age of 80 years. That one so old should not be closer to the original pioneers than great-grand-daughter seems strange, yet Mrs. Henry sustained that relationship on both her maternal and paternal sides. On her father's side her great-grandfather James Atherton, was one of the early settlers in Wyoming. He came with the first party that came in 1763, nearly all of whom were slain by the Indians the same year. James had a son, also James, whose son Elisha was the father of Mrs. Henry. The Athertons are of English extraction, the family tracing its lineage back fully 800 years. They have been in this country 260 years, the first to come having been Humphrey Atherton, from whom Mrs. Henry is seventh in descent.

On her mother's side she was the daughter of Zibia Perkins, who was the daughter of David Perkins, who was the son of John Perkins, who during the Revolution was killed by the Indians in Wyoming Valley. He was an enlisted soldier in Capt. Spalding's company Jan. 1, 1777 to July 6, 1777, on which latter day he was killed by the Indians.

Mrs. Charles A. Miner of this city is a half sister of Mrs. Henry, the latter being a daughter of Elisha Atherton by his first marriage, Mrs. Miner a daughter by a second marriage, to the widow of Samuel Maffet.

Mrs. Henry, who was born in Wyoming Valley was the widow of William Henry, whose name is indissolubly connected with the development of the coal, iron and railway interests of Scranton. His death occurred at Wyom-

ing in 1878. William Henry was the son of Judge William Henry and the grandson of Judge William Henry, member of the Continental Congress, and a distinguished inventor, who preceded Fitch and Fulton in the application of steam as a motive power to propel boats.

Mrs. Henry, who was attached all her life to the Presbyterian Church, is survived by two children, Mrs. W. Scott Stites of Wyoming (whose husband is pastor of the Presbyterian Church there), and Mrs. Thomas Henry Atherton of Wilkes-Barre.

 ANCESTORS WERE PIONEERS.

In the death of Mrs. Sallie Henry of Wyoming at the advanced age of 80 years, another of the few links which yet bind us to the early decades of this century is broken. Mrs. Henry has passed her entire life in this valley and her charming rural home in Wyoming is a part of the bloody field over which our forefathers fought the combined foe of British, Indians and Tories, 117 years ago. Near by is the monument which commemorates that historic event and at its base Mrs. Henry has been wont to meet in years gone by on each 3d of July when the battle was commemorated. This year she was absent for the first time since the mid-summer exercises have been held.

She came from patriot stock, who sealed their devotion to their country and to Wyoming by laying down their lives in this valley.

On her paternal side, Atherton, she was the great-grand-daughter of James Atherton, who was one of the original settlers of this valley in 1763, and who narrowly escaped the massacre of that year. The family was less fortunate in the massacre of 1778, two of the Athertons losing their lives on that fearful day.

On her maternal side she was the great-grand-daughter of John Perkins, an early settler in Wyoming, who was killed by the Indians while working on his farm in the valley.

Mrs. Henry's husband, William Henry, was a pioneer in the development of the resources of Lackawanna Valley, and it is to his energy and far-seeing enterprise that Scranton owes so much of her prosperity to-day, even if she does not recognize him as her

founder. He was one of the first to appreciate the hidden mineral wealth of that region, and to introduce railroad facilities. The county seat of Lackawanna can point with pride to such figures as Mr. Henry, the Scrantons, Mr. Mattes, Mr. Grant and others, who digged deep and strong for her foundations half a century ago.

It is nearly 20 years ago that this grand man was gathered to his fathers at the ripe old age of 82, but his widow's life never lost its sunshine, in spite of her bereavement, and her charming country home has always been an abode of delightful Christian hospitality. She was spared the physical decrepitude of advanced age and her mental powers, too, were unabated up to the very last. Consequently, though her life was in the past, she lost none of her interest in the present. Women of such godly life as hers are a benediction and the community meet with a loss when at last, in God's good time, they are called hence.

DEATH CAME SUDDENLY.

George M. Stark of Wyoming, a citizen well known in this section of the county, died very suddenly of heart disease early on Saturday morning at his farm near Dallas. He had been suffering with cholera morbus for a few days but the fatal complication was entirely unlooked for. Mrs. Dr. Warner of this city is a sister of deceased. His wife was with him when he died but the rest of his family was at Lake Carey.

Mr. Stark was born in Plains Township Sept. 11, 1842, and was a son of John M. and Sarah (Davison) Stark. He was educated at Wyoming Seminary and for one summer worked on the canal with his father. In 1859 he was employed by the Pittston Gas Co. and remained for three years. In 1862 he enlisted in Battery M, Second Pennsylvania Artillery, and served until the close of the war. He then returned to Franklin Township and worked on his father's farm for a year and a half, when he engaged in mercantile business in Moosic for six years, at the end of which time he moved to Wyoming and operated a general store four years. In November, 1885, he engaged in business with the Pittston Iron Roofing Co., of which

he was secretary and treasurer. He was married, Oct. 10, 1867, to Miss Albertine, daughter of Dr. Alford and Catherine (Van Loon) Brace, natives of New York and Pennsylvania, respectively.

Deceased was popular among all those who knew him and had a wide acquaintance.

Deceased leaves no children. He is survived by the following sisters: Mrs. M. Coolbaugh of Pittston, Mrs. Miles Stevens of Pittston, Mrs. W. H. Shoemaker of Wyoming, Mrs. Dr. Warner of Wilkes-Barre and Mrs. Frank Mosier of Pittston.

OVER 90 YEARS OF AGE.

Thursday, Aug. 1, 1895, at 9 o'clock Mrs. Christian Campbell, one of the oldest residents of the county, passed away at the home of her son, Cyrus Campbell, in Pittston. She was 91 years of age and died of general debility. Deceased was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittston, and until a short time ago was a faithful attendant. Her home in early life was in Lancaster. In 1822 she was married to Brooks Campbell, who passed away in 1847. Since 1853 she has made her home in Pittston. The following children survive: Charles H. West Pittston; Brooks, Scranton; John, master mechanic at Buffalo; E. W., California; Elizabeth, at home, and Cyrus, the dry goods merchant of Pittston.

VISITS HERE ONCE AGAIN.

Columbus J. Baldwin of Norwalk, O., whose *no de plume*, "Mountaineer," was familiar to every reader of the Record of the Times a third of a century ago, accompanied by Mrs. Baldwin and their daughter, arrived in this city Aug. 6, 1895, and visited his brother on Carey avenue. "Mountaineer's" pen was a trenchant one and did yeoman service for the cause of freedom in the formative period of the Republican party. Mr. Baldwin was elected clerk of the courts of Luzerne county in 1858 by a majority of six hundred against an adverse Democratic majority of 1,500. And those were days when money did not buy nominations and elections on the Republican ticket, and taking the oath of office carried with it no suspicion of perjury. Mr. Baldwin was re-elected clerk in 1861 by the aid of the

soldier vote, which the Supreme Court decided unconstitutional, hence he was obliged to step down and out, but was immediately appointed United States assessor by Judge Jessup, for the west side of the county, which office he filled acceptably until 1866, when he removed to Ohio. It is now twenty-one years since Mr. Baldwin removed from Luzerne and eleven since his former visit. He notes the many wonderful changes in the valley and is impressed by the fewness of familiar faces. Indeed very few men are in active business life for so long a period as thirty years. Those remaining of Mr. Baldwin's old friends will give him a hearty welcome.

THE RAVAGES OF TIME.

C. J. Baldwin, a former Wilkes-Barrean, who moved to Ohio thirty years ago, is visiting friends in town for a few days. In the course of a communication to the Times he says: "The writer was elected clerk of the courts in 1858, was an occupant of the old stone "fire proof" building for one month. Then, on Jan. 1, 1859, the offices were moved into the then, new court house. We are startled by the fact that the writer is the only person living who occupied a position in the court house at that time. John N. Conyngham was judge of the courts; J. B. Stark sheriff; David L. Patrick, prothonotary; Thomas M. Atherton, register of wills; Edmond Taylor, treasurer; Wesley Kunkle, recorder; Benjamin F. Pfouts, John Blanchard and Stephen Davenport, commissioners; Sidney Eicke, court crier, and Charles Behler, janitor, all of whom have joined the great army of the dead. Garrick M. Harding was prosecuting attorney at that time, but did not occupy a room in the court house.

"We call to mind the following named attorneys, who were then living but now dead, to wit:

"Charles Denison, Volney Maxwell, L. D. Shoemaker, Caleb F. Bowman, H. B. Wright, C. E. Wright, E. L. Dana, David Randall, W. W. Ketcham, E. B. Chase, A. T. McClintock, Lyman Hakes, H. M. Hoyt, S. P. Longstreet, E. B. Harvey, Stephen Winchester, Lyman Nicholson, Charles Pike, Judge Handley, W. P. Miner, Steuben Jenkins, Angelo Jackson, Daniel Rankin, David L. Patrick, E. P. Darling, Oristus Collins, Stewart Jierce and Byron

Nicholson. What an array of names. They not only honored their profession but distinguished themselves, whether on the judiciary, in the halls of congress, in the chair of State or on the field of battle."

THE FIRST AND THE LAST WRIT.

Port Blanchard, Aug. 13, 1895.—Editor Record: In your interesting "Resume" founded on the visit to town of Mr. Baldwin, I notice it said of him that he is the only person living "who occupied a position in the court house in 1858." On the said Jan. 1, 1859, I was in no "position," but was temporarily helping Mr. Patrick as clerk, and in that capacity issued the last "writ" which went from the old "fire-proof," and the first "writ" which went from the new office in the present court house on said date.

C. I. A. Chapman.

LUZERNE PIONEER DEAD.

David H. Taylor, one of the pioneers in the lumber industry of White Haven, died at Morrisville, Pa., Monday, Sept. 2, 1895. He came to Luzerne County from Bucks County and settled at White Haven, and engaged in a saw mill enterprise in the year 1840. He was prominently identified with the early history of lower Luzerne, and will be well remembered by our older citizens. Deceased was an uncle of Mrs. William Stoddard and Mrs. Charles Kern of this city. He participated in the erection of White Haven into a borough, and was elected a member of the first borough council.

THE LATE DAVID H. TAYLOR.

The death of David H. Taylor recalls many old time memories of White Haven. No man was better known or more respected. Mr. Taylor was unpretentious, dignified, was well fitted for a position of usefulness in the social or business community as was shown by his influence in White Haven during the formative period of its existence and at a time when its future could not be forecast. In the early settlement of White Haven Mr. Taylor exercised an efficient energy and influence in shaping its development, when men were valued for what judgment and perseverance could accomplish, and when they wisely utilized to the best advantage every obtainable experience. In Mr. Taylor's early day the

trade in anthracite was in its swaddling clothes, and the vicinity of White Haven was heavily timbered with hemlock and pine; when there was but little land cleared White Haven was a small pioneer post-town; was incorporated in 1842 and the Lehigh Valley R. R. and the Central R. R. of New Jersey pass through it. The present White Haven is evidence of the ingenuity, industry and personal worth of such men as David H. Taylor.

OVER A HUNDRED YEARS.

UNIONTOWN, July 16. 1895—John Murray, aged 102, died at his mountain home, near Wympe's Cap, this county, Sunday. He was the oldest man in the county and had a very interesting history. He was born in Maryland, but came to this State at the close of the war of 1812. He marched with the American army across Licking Creek. A short time before his death he transferred his property to John Burnham and his sister-in-law, who had taken care of him and also rode to Bruceton, W. Va., and ordered his coffin, a black walnut casket. Murray never had any children but raised fourteen orphans, all of whom will attend his funeral.

DEATH OF COL. JAMES A. SNOWDEN.

A brother of the late E. Hazard Snowden, Col. James A. Snowden, died at his home in Mississippi on April 23, 1895, aged 89 years. He was a son of the Rev. Samuel Finley Snowden and was born in Sackett's Harbor, N. Y., May 24, 1806. He had passed his entire life in the South. His wife, who has been dead nearly fifty years, was Miss Sarah S. Holder, descended from the Virginia Holders. He was naturally a Southerner during the war and had four sons in the Confederate army, he being too old for service.

DISTINGUISHED JURISTS LIVED THERE.

The property of the Hugh Murray estate on Northampton street, between the residences of Agib Ricketts and Dr. Stewart was sold on Aug. 10, 1895, to Dr. G. T. Matlack. The doctor, who now has his office and residence on

Washington street, nearly opposite St. Nicholas Church, will take possession in the fall, building an office on the side toward Franklin street.

The Murray house was once the home of Chief Justice John Bannister Gibson, who resided in Wilkes-Barre from 1813 to 1816, at which time he was presiding judge of Luzerne County. It was also at one time the residence of Chief Justice George W. Woodward, and the latter's son, Judge Stanley Woodward, now presiding judge of Luzerne County was born there in 1833. The latter's mother was also born there. The latter's mother was also born there, she being the only daughter of Dr. George W. Trott.

NOTES ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.

Samstag Abend, Robert Baur & Son's German weekly, came out in a special edition Aug. 24, 1895, with a full illustrated account of the battle of the Sedan, the anniversary of which will be celebrated by Germans this week. The edition is a stroke of enterprise on the part of Baur & Son.

There are two old-timers in the editorial profession in this State who took an active part in supporting old "Tippecanoe" Harrison for President in 1840, says the Allentown Chronicle. Judge Schoch of the Stroudsburg Jeffersonian started that paper during that memorable campaign, and has continued it without interruption to the present time. He is the senior newspaper publisher and editor in Pennsylvania, and probably the oldest in the United States. The other one is E. H. Rauch, the senior of the Mauch Chunk Daily News, who made his first public speech at Mullica Hill, N. J., during the same campaign of 1840, when he was 20 years of age. His newspaper business dates from 1831.

The claim that the Pittston Gazette is the oldest newspaper in northeastern Pennsylvania, having been published for forty-five years under the same name, brings out a reply from the editor of the Montrose Democrat, who says his paper can beat that by eight years, being now in its fifty-third year. This claim in turn causes the editor of the Honesdale Herald to say that his paper has had a continuous existence for seventy-seven years, and the present editor's name has been at its mast head for thirty-six years.

JOHN BROWN'S RAID.

Postmaster C. M. Williams of Plainsville, who was a soldier in the years 1855 and 1856 in Kansas, Aug. 29, 1855, received the following note from Col. R. W. Howard, the only living survivor of John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry. The note was written at Cowesett, R. I., and says:

"I was in Kansas in 1855 to 1859. I knew most of the men you have mentioned in your letter. Did you ever know one Capt. Henry who lived at Topeka? He came out to reinforce Brown's army towards the Nebraska line. The extreme cold killed him before he returned and he was buried on the way back."

It was generally supposed that when Owen Brown died in Pasadena, Cal., in 1890, the last participant in John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859 had passed away. The idea is incorrect, as Col. Howard, the writer of the note above, turns up as the only survivor of the foray. He lives in Cowesett, R. I., and at the age of 60 is hale and hearty. Howard was 24 years old at the time of Brown's attack on the old arsenal. He was born in Rhode Island and emigrated to Kansas, where he met Brown and Kagi, Brown's right hand man. He aided them in some of their raids into Missouri after slaves, and was made acquainted with all their plans. A constitution was drawn up in Canada, and under it Brown was chosen commander in chief, and J. Henry Kagi, secretary of war. Mr. Howard has still a copy of this constitution in cipher, but has never worked it out. The story of the rendezvous at the Kennedy farm and Brown's life there previous to the attack, as related by Mr. Howard is interesting. He says: Brown expected men and arms from all over the country, and in fact some aid was approaching when he made the fatal attack. This attack was ten days earlier than was planned owing to the fear that there was a traitor in the ranks.

To secure 150,000 rifles which Brown supposed were in the arsenal at Harper's Ferry was the point of the assault. The twenty-two men, five of whom were blacks, took their places in the night and met with little resistance. A train came along, however

unmolested, and the engineer took the news to Baltimore. Had Brown taken what arms his adherents could carry and retreated to his rock bound retreat, Howard thinks all would have been well, for the Kennedy farm was a place as easily defended as Thermopylae. The second day the troops arrived and the little band was shut in like rats in a hole. After being driven out of the arsenal Kagi and five others, Howard among them, tried to hold a dugout on the river bank on the Virginia side. The fire became too hot for them and they started for a rocky island in the middle of the river. Kagi and the other four men were killed, a half a dozen bullets striking Kagi at the same time. Howard escaped in an almost miraculous way. He says further: "When 200 men are firing at you it is a narrow chance. Troops were coming in on the trains and that was the reason we took to the rock. So much lead came down all about me that I got into the river. I went under the water and kept under, coming up only once or twice. I went with the current and when I got out far enough I paddled a little faster. When I floated the current helped me a little. I saw dead bodies floating down and the troops thought I was killed with the others. When I reached the land on the Maryland side I went to the Kennedy House, from there to St. Louis and thence back to Rhode Island."

John Brown and six of the captured men were hanged at Charleston, Va., for treason and murder. Howard would have shared their fate if he had been captured. He kept quiet until the war broke out when he enlisted in the 9th Rhode Island Regiment. Howard is confident that if the attacks had been delayed the result would have been altogether different, as they would have had thousands of men to aid them in their scheme of liberating the Virginia slaves. Howard says he knows where Brown's papers are buried. Howard was impressed with Brown's deep religious spirit, the strict obedience of his sons and the confidence he had in the ultimate success of his scheme and he resents any attacks upon the man's sincerity or sanity.

REUNION OF 143d REG'T, P. V.

(Daily Record, Aug. 29, 1895.)

The twenty-sixth annual reunion of the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers was held at Shickshinny Wednesday. The town presented a regular holiday appearance, the streets being thronged with people gathered from the country for miles around. The hotels as well as the private houses were profusely decorated with flags and bunting. When the train bearing the survivors of that loyal old regiment from Scranton and intermediate points pulled into the station it was met by the committees from Shickshinny Post, 257, G. A. R., and the Sons of Veterans. They formed rank and, headed by the Glenburn Drum Corps, which accompanied the Lackawanna delegation, marched to Riverside Park, where the exercises of the day were held. By the time the park was reached it was almost noon, and the business meeting, which was scheduled for 11:45, was postponed, and the veterans and their wives sat down in the large pavilion and partook of a hearty meal, which consisted not only of the prescribed pork and beans, but also of substantial viands of all kinds.

The table were presided over by the pretty daughters of Shickshinny's veterans, and the hospitality with which they received the 143d and its friends will not soon be forgotten.

After the boys had satisfied their appetites they repaired to a large platform in the rear, where the business meeting was held. This was called to order by the president of the association of the 143d, Capt. P. De Lacey, of Scranton.

Rev. Mr. Mickie, pastor of the Shickshinny Presbyterian Church, and a son of a veteran, offered prayer.

The secretary called the roll of the survivors of the regiment, which showed 104 present.

Among those present from this vicinity were:

Kunkle—Samuel Hess, C. D. Kunkle, Charles Kunkle.

Pittston—Rudolph Fenner.

Moscow—Lieut. O. E. Vaughn.

Luzerne—Ira Hardy, George W. Engle, George W. Keller, James Hoover, J. D. Willis.

Glenburn—C. A. Sherman, William Knorr.

East Benton—Alvin H. Colvin.
Meshoppen—Edward Shoemaker.
Waverly—Milo Stone, T. C. Kennedy.
Cambria—J. H. Gearhart.

Muhlenburg—E. Roberts.

Harveyville—O. M. Campbell.

Beaumont—John Rood, Thomas Baringer, Andrew Hilbert.

Dorrancon—Capt. H. M. Gordon.

Scranton—M. L. Blair, Capt. DeLacy.

Shickshinny—Alexander McDaniels, James Kester, Jacob Hobbes, Amos W. Lanning.

Ruggles—J. B. Hobbes.

Bloomfield—S. M. Blanchard, J. W. Rood, John Rood.

Plymouth—James Renard, James Atherton, Ira Ransom, William Schooley and Nicholas Warmouth.

York City—John E. Hoff.

Sweet Valley—William M. Rummage, Thomas Shaw, Silas Nevil, C. L. Moore.

Kingston—C. J. Turpin.

Georgetown—Aaron Porter.

Silkworth—George Lamereaux.

Ashley—David Davis, George Bellas.

Wilkes-Barre—James Stetler, Isaac Jones, George N. Reichard, James M. Rutter, Charles S. Shotten, Charles D. Hoover, E. H. Groff, Asa Gardner, Aaron Freeman, Singleton M. Goss, Charles Westover.

West Nanticoke—Jacob Bonewitz.

Dorrance—John Vandermark, Henry Reinhammer.

Beach Haven—C. H. Campbell.

Town Line—Almon W. Rood.

Irish Lane—John M. Culver.

Pritchard—Alfred Groff.

Dallas—W. S. Randall.

Maple Run—J. F. Moss.

Pike's Creek—Josiah W. Wolfe.

Huntington Mills—Benjamin Bellas.

Berwick—Josiah Kemer.

The roll call showed that the following have died since the last reunion: Maj. Charles M. Conyngham and Charles Gabel, Wilkes-Barre; L. J. Curtis, Kingston; W. W. Johnson, Peckville; Hugh Donnelly, Dunmore; Elijah Robbins, Luzerne Borough; Daniel Hawes, Susquehanna County; William S. Downs, Maple Run; Cornelius Blobbett, Nicholson; S. D. Burnett, West Auburn.

The history of the 143d Regiment, P. V., records one of the bravest commands of the war. No regiment that left Pennsylvania left so many brave men behind. Out of 1,300 men taken to the front, 363 is all that returned to tell the story. Another regiment with

such a record as this would be hard to find. The regiment was organized at Camp Luzerne in October, 1862, with Col. E. L. Dana, Lieut. Col. George E. Hoyt and Maj. J. D. Musser in command. In November it went to Harrisburg, thence to the fortifications around Washington. Feb. 17, 1863, they went to the front attached to the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 1st Corps. April 29 they were under artillery fire on the Rappahannock just before the battle of Chancellorsville. Their first great engagement was at Gettysburg. The 143d was the first infantry to reach the field and formed a support of Buford's guns. Gen. Reynolds, corps commander, was killed at the outset, also Cols. Stone and Wister. The command of the brigade then devolved upon Col. Dana of the 143d. During the awful struggle of the brigade Sergt. Ben Crippen, the color bearer, was shot and the colors fell. Maj. Conyngnam shouted to rally around the colors. They did and the colors were recovered. During the day the 143d lost in killed, wounded and prisoners 252 out of an enrollment of 465. The second and third day they were in the Union line on Cemetery Hill under Hancock, occupying part of the depression between Little Round Top and Cemetery Ridge. They supported Sickles in the disastrous operations in the peach orchard and wheat field. The third day they rushed out on Pickett's flank and helped break his charge into disorder. Their next bloody struggle was in the Wilderness in May, 1864. Col. Dana was wounded and captured as also was Capt. Little and Gordon with part of their companies. Lieutenants John C. Kropp and Musser were killed.

At the battle of Laurel Hill in the Wilderness campaign the 143d took part in a number of heroic charges and suffered terribly. May 13 Maj. Conyngnam was severely wounded. The battles of the Wilderness and Gettysburg reduced the 143d to such small numbers as few regiments can claim. The command had some lively work before Petersburg and did hard service in the fall and winter of '64. At the lively fight of Hatcher's Run in February, '65, where Capt. Asher Gaylord and a number of brave fellows of the 142d were killed, the command saw about the last arduous service of the war. Three days later they were sent

North and stationed at Hart's Island, New York. June 12 they were ordered to Harrisburg to receive pay and muster out, and on this journey they came through Wilkes-Barre, receiving an ovation.

THE 143D AT GETTYSBURG.

The following poem was read by John S. McGroarty at the 143d Pennsylvania Vols. reunion at Shickshinny.

Up from the valleys desolate in the track
of bitter war,
From their wasted hopes and ruined
homes and lonely graves, afar,
The cries of women, comfortless, above
the silent slain
Echoing still upon their ears in moans of
endless pain,
In deep despair of heart and soul, with
sword and sweeping flame
Northward to Pennsylvania's fields Lee
and the Lost Cause came.

Out like the shades of darkness from the
gloom of sullen flight,
Ghost of a mighty, vanished dream in
the misted morning light,
Scarred and worn from the dreadful strife
the old battalion stood,
Like tigers baffled from their lair by the
hungering scent of blood,
Girded for one last onslaught, they
crossed the hills to throw
The last fierce chance upon the fields of
Gettysburg, below.

But well for the blue that battled 'gainst
the onslaught of the gray,
The patient North had sent its tried and
truest men that day,
And well for the Union banner its own
were brave and true
And never a craven heart beat there in
all the ranks of blue,
And glory to every man of all who fought
and would not yield,
And glory to fair Wyoming's sons, the
first to reach the field.

For they were the first at Gettysburg—
the men of Wyoming's vale—
The first to bear the shock of the fight
in that storm of leaden hail,
The first to plant the Union flag in the
face of the rebel foe,
The first to give for its stars their blood
in the battle's bitter throes,
The first to strike, the first to die, their
blood baptized the fray,
While the winding river of their youth
sang glory, far away.

Brave men were on that bloody field, but
ours the bravest still;
'Twas Dana led—the lion heart, the
dauntless soul and will,
His sword had drunk of foeman's blood
in many a fight of old
When the Spaniard hordes of Mexico

had flung their challenge bold.
 'Twas he who won El Pinal's pass, and
 Vera Cruz could tell
 Tales of Wyoming's Volunteers and
 Dana's shot and shell.

But never, of all their battles, fought they
 as on that day
 At Gettysburg, when Reynolds fell be-
 fore the daring gray;
 Thrice went our colors down—'twas Crip-
 pen bore them on—
 And thrice through fire and blood and
 death the flag again was won;
 'Though Crippen fell his soul ne'er left
 the battle's fierce confines,
 And like a bugle Dana's voice rang cour-
 age through the lines.

Sore pressed were they in that dread hell
 of agony and pain,
 The foe's hand was at their throats,
 fast fell their comrades slain;
 On head and limb the saber stroke, and
 deep the cannon's roar
 Hushed the last moan of lips that would
 speak tenderly no more;
 And ne'er again the dead's dull ears
 would hear, when done that day,
 The winding river of their youth sing to
 them, far away.

But so they fought at Gettysburg—the
 first to reach the field—
 And so they faced the foe and bled and
 died, but did not yield.
 Few came they back—the many sleep
 among the hallowed dead.
 But fame has wreathed its laurels fair
 for every hero's head.
 And when they speak of Gettysburg in
 ages, far away,
 They'll marvel much at Dana's men
 whose blood baptized the fray.

THE OLDEST ENGINEER.

(Bethlehem Times, Sept. 5, 1895.)

Peter Styers, whose claim of being the oldest running locomotive engineer in the United States was not disputed, died Thursday morning at his residence in Bethlehem of gangrene, hastened by paralysis. He railroaded for nearly half a century, and ran a locomotive for nearly forty-six years. In all this time he was never in a collision and was the cause of no accident. This is remarkable when it is stated that his brother railroaders have computed that he has run steam engines a distance equivalent to forty-one times around the globe. Mr. Styers was one of the best known locomotive engineers in the State. He was a native of New Jersey, and was born on Sept. 22, 1824. He was one of ten children, the fifth son of the late John and Mary Styers. He went to boating

at the age of 16 and was employed on the Delaware Canal for a year or two, when the family moved into the Pennsylvania coal regions. Mr. Styers then drove a stage coach at Catawissa and when he attained his majority he found employment on the Schuylkill Valley R. R. At the time there were no engines on this road. He started in to drive teams that pulled the coal cars.

On March 27, 1846, he married Miss Sarah Moyer, daughter of the late John and Eva Moyer of near Steinsville, Berks County. They went to house-keeping at Cressona and Mr. Styers got work on the old Mine Hill branch of the Reading R. R. In four years he worked his way up from driver to trackman, to brakeman, to fireman, and in 1849 he pulled open the first throttle on a locomotive as an engineer. He was wont often to talk about the engines of that day. There was only a piece of weather boarding for the engineer's cab.

Then came the canvas awning. He witnessed all the advancements that the builders of locomotives made. From the weather board cab to that of the luxurious cab of to-day, he has experienced it all. Subsequently he ran on the North Penn road, and was one of the first engineers on that road. Thirteen years he engineered there. Then he ran on the Valley, and in 1866 he secured a position on the Jersey Central, remaining continuously in that company's employ until Jan. 5 of this year, when he was forced by illness to resign. Twenty-three years ago he moved his family to West Bethlehem from Odenweldertown. On Aug. 2, 1869, his son William was taken on his engine as fireman. Father and son railroaded side by side ever since, the son succeeding the father at the throttle when he was forced to retire owing to illness. The Styerses were placed in charge of the Bethlehem shifter when it was first put on the road, and old 202 would have wept this morning, if it were a possibility, at the news of its old engineer's death. Mr. Styers was known as a careful engineer. Escaping without an accident in forty-six years is an enviable reputation. He was held in high esteem by his fellow railroaders. He was a good, kind hearted man. He is survived by his widow, two brothers—Jacob, of Mt. Vernon, O., and John of Catawissa—and a sister—Mary, wife of Levi Snyder, of Harmony, N. J. Of

his eight children, a son—William H. Styers, and a daughter—Mary E., widow of the late Alexander S. Miller, are living, together with five grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and an adopted son, John Stewart, of Philadelphia.

HISTORIC OLD ELM.

Early on Sept. 5, 1895, several men began cutting down the historic old elm tree situated on Elm Hill, Plymouth. This tree is one of the oldest landmarks in the valley and around it cling many historical recollections of old Shawnee. For over two centuries this stately old elm has withstood the blasts of the elements and it remained for the hand of man to bring its long lease of life to a close. The descendants of the old families of Shawnee looked upon this tree as an heirloom of their forefathers and they are loathe to see it destroyed. For the past few years it has had very few green boughs and as it is an unusually large elm, Rev. Thomas McKay, who now occupies the house in the rear of it, fearing that if a heavy wind storm came up the old tree would topple over on his home, decided to pull it down.

When it became known to the people of Plymouth that this historical old tree was being felled a large number of them gathered about it and no sooner had the first branch fallen than they began to cut pieces from it to keep as souvenirs. No less than a wagon load of the tree was carted off. The pieces will be made into gavels, mallets and various other articles to be kept as relics.

Much of the early history of Plymouth and of the pioneers of Shawneetown is clustered about this tree. From the historical sketches of Plymouth by Hendrick B. Wright we find that the tree served as the town sign post and from a copy of the old town journal it is found that the following resolution was passed in March 2, 1774:

"It was voted at this meeting that for ye present ye tree that now stands northerly from Capt. Butler's house shall be ye Town Sign Post."

The sign post, the historians tell us, was in those days a very important

thing. It was here where all public meetings were held, the business of the town transacted, the place for posting notices, the public whipping post, the auction mast, the recruiting depot and place where elections were held. Election day was a day of jubilee and amusement. While the voting population would be electing their officers, the young men would engage in feats of physical strength, such as wrestling throwing the bar and foot racing.

The selection of this tree did not seem to satisfy the residents on the east side and a strife grew up between the sides. A vote was taken, in which the west side came out victorious and the sign post was changed, being removed to a certain tree in Kingston ten rods north of the house of Mr. Ross. Afterwards a compromise was effected and the two sign posts remained.

The town poor were always sold at the public meetings held at the sign post until Judge Burnside caused the overseers of the poor in some district to be indicted in his court and imposed on this offense. Later in the history the historian says that no records remain of the later meetings and he is uncertain as to where the first triumvirate, Phineas Nash, Capt. David Martin and J. Gaylord, held their court.

Mr. Wright in conclusion says: "I have but little doubt, therefore, that the old school house upon the hill was in the early days the forum of justice, and the old elm, the public sign post and whipping post of Plymouth ninety-eight years ago. (This would be about 1775).

Mr. Wright closes a lengthy article on the historical associations of the old elm by saying: "Will you spare it? It stands there now, erect, green and vigorous, a glorious landmark of the early days of Plymouth and it is to be hoped that it may be permitted to remain. The eyes of our ancestors rested upon it in days ago. To me it is a pleasant reminder of the plain and primitive days of the town."

It might be well to say that the old elm which in the above Mr. Wright makes such a deserved plea for preserving has stood until by age and time and weather it has become so decayed that to allow it to stand would be unsafe. But there is no doubt that the spot where it stood will always be cherished by the residents of old Shawnee and their descendants.

A TREE'S MISTAKEN IDENTITY.

It has been supposed that a certain tree on the river bank, planted by the late Martin Coryell in front of his residence, was a mahogany tree, but that the supposition was an error is shown by the following from the "National Stockman and Farmer:"

A North American forest tree known only in limited districts, but worthy of more attention than it has received in ornamental planting, is the Kentucky coffee tree. It is (as one has said) a combination of the peculiarities of many trees. Planted by itself, it strikes the eye of the beholder at once; in summer, by its large and abundant foliage; in winter by its long, thick, cane-like shoots which seem wholly destitute of buds. This peculiar appearance after the leaves fall has given it its generic name *Gymnocladus*—literally, naked branch. The common name, coffee tree, is said to have come from the fact of its seeds having been used by the early settlers as a substitute for coffee.

It is a monotypic genus, there being but the one species known, *G. canadensis*.

The leaves are bipinnate, and very large, many single ones on thrifty young trees being three feet in length and nearly two in width. Each main leaf-stalk bears four to seven compound leaves, each of which is composed of six to eight leaflets, in size about three inches by five-eighths, so that one main leaf-stalk often has over a hundred and fifty leaflets.

Like the Osage orange, the Kentucky coffee tree is dioecious, the staminate and pistillate blossoms being borne on different trees. This accounts for a tree which stands at a distance from others rarely or never bearing seed. Flowers white, borne in short, terminal racemes, coming out from May to July.

The bark on the trunk is particularly rough and broken transversely.

Recently a newspaper item, copied somewhat extensively, stated that a mahogany tree of fine size and appearance was growing near Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Leaves from this tree and a shoot of the present season's growth, kindly sent at our request by Mr. F. C. Johnson, of the Wilkes-Barre Record, shows that it is the Kentucky coffee tree. The mahogany is indigenous in Central America and the West India Islands. Technically it is known as *Swietenia*, after a Dutch botanist and author of the last century named Swieten. The value of the wood in the manu-

facture of fine furniture is well known. In the North the tree can be grown only under the most favorable artificial conditions, failing entirely in the open ground.

The coffee tree can be multiplied by seeds, which often do not vegetate the first season after planting; and also by cuttings of the roots. It is perfectly hardy, standing the most severe winters as well as an apple tree. Just why it has been called mahogany, in more than one instance, too, and in Maryland and Virginia as well as Pennsylvania, is not clear. It may probably be traced to some person who furnished the young trees for planting forty or fifty years ago.

ANOTHER COFFEE TREE IN TOWN.

Referring to the fact recently stated in the Record that there was a coffee tree growing on the River bank, Professor Solly writes as follows:

Editor Record: There was and probably is yet a good specimen of the coffee tree, *Gymnocladus Canadensis*, standing in the grounds of the property of the late Reuben Downing in the northwest corner formed by the crossing of the Pennsylvania R. R. at Hanover road. During the year this property was occupied by me, the tree bore abundantly of its peculiar leguminous fruit, which would seem to indicate, the species being dioecious, that there were other trees in the vicinity or else that pollenization may occur either by the aid of insects or otherwise at much greater distance than is usually supposed.

This property was formerly owned by Mr. Harkins, a florist, and I am inclined to believe that the tree was set out by him.

W. J. Solly.

Philadelphia, Oct. 3, 1895.

THAT COFFEE TREE.

Editor Record: In reply to the article in Saturday's Record in reference to the Mexican coffee tree planted by the late Daniel Harkins at his residence on the Careytown road, will say that the tree was taken from among others in his nursery and planted on his lawn. It was a slow grower, but when matured made a very attractive tree on account of its perfect shape and graceful foliage. The tree bore fruit when quite young, and bore abundantly while Mr. Harkins still retained the place some thirteen years since. Mr. Harkins

planted on this place a choice selection of trees and shrubs, nearly all of which have since died of exposure and neglect.

The Mexican coffee tree on the river bank mentioned some time ago in the papers, was planted by Mr. Harkins also.

Mary Harkins.

KINGSTON IN 1814.

Following is a list of advertised letters as taken from a local paper of 1814. It would seem strange that such well known people should have absented themselves from the post office so long as to make it necessary to advertise these letters:

Letters in the postoffice, Kingston, July 1, 1814:

James Atherton,	David Perkins,
Elisha Atherton,	Thomas Patterson,
Jacob Bedford,	Joseph Swetland,
Wm. Bassett,	Daniel Swetland,
Isaac Carpenter,	Josiah Squires,
Benj. Dorrance,	Isaac Shoemaker,
James Hughes	Belding Swetland,
Alexander Jackson,	Philip Shaver,
Harris Jenkins,	Henry Tuttle,
Abraham Johnston,	Calvin Wadhams,
Wm. Loveland,	Elnathan Wilson,
Philip Myers,	Thos. Wall,
Ebenezer Parish,	Henry Young.

H. BUCKINGHAM, P. M.

DEATH OF JUSTICE STRONG.

Lake Minnewaska, N. Y., August 19, 1895.—Justice Strong died at 2:15 to-day.

Ex-Justice Strong had been critically ill for some weeks, here, suffering from a stroke of paralysis, affecting the left side of his body. He had also catarrhal fever, and for the last forty-eight hours was unconscious.

William Strong, son of Rev. William Lighthouse Strong, was born in Somers, Tolland County, Conn., May 6, 1808. He was educated at the Plainfield Academy and Yale College, graduating at the age of 20 years. After a brief career as school teacher, he returned to New Haven and graduated from the law school of Yale. Removing thence to Philadelphia, he was admitted to the bar in 1832. The young lawyer chose Reading, Pa., for his home, and entered upon the practice of his profession in 1847. Having taken an active interest in politics, he was elected to represent the district in Congress, and served two terms. He then returned to the practice of his profession, and in 1857 was elected a judge of the Supreme Court of the State of Pennsylvania for a term of fifteen years. On Oct. 1, 1868, he resigned that position and resumed his practice at the bar.

While a member of the Supreme Court of the State, the deceased justice won a reputation for judicial learning that extended far beyond its limits, and when, in 1870, President Grant transmitted his name with that of the late Justice Bradley to the Senate for confirmation as associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, there was a general feeling of satisfaction among the members of his profession. On Jan. 15, 1872, Justice Strong announced the decision of the court affirming the constitutionality of the legal tender acts, and Justice Bradley concurred in a lengthy opinion. But the legal tender question was not the only one of importance growing out of the war, in the settlement of which Justice Strong took a prominent part. The constitutional amendments intended to crystallize and preserve the results of the war, and the congressional legislation necessary to give these constitutional provisions force and effect were before the court and he read the opinion of the court in a number of cases of much importance.

Justice Strong was designated by the electoral commission act of 1877 as one of the judicial members of the famous tripartite tribunal which passed upon the contested presidential election of 1875. In 1880, Justice Strong, having reached the age at which, under the constitution, retirement from the bench after ten years of service thereon is permitted, retired, and had since then made his home in Washington. Justice Strong was a prominent citizen of Washington, taking an active interest in benevolent and religious projects.

He was a ruling elder in the Church of the Covenant and a leading officer in the Bible Society and in the merican Tract Society, usually presiding over their annual gatherings. In these lines he will be sadly missed.

In 1836 Justice Strong married Priscilla Lee at Easton, Pa., by whom he had a family of one son and several daughters. The son died in 1892; two of the daughters are married and reside in Pennsylvania; two unmarried daughters have been their father's intimate companions since the death of their mother some years ago.

The remains were taken to Reading, Pa., where funeral services were held and interment was made.

CHARLES MINER ONCE OWNED IT

The West Chester Village Record, one of Chester County's oldest newspapers, is offered for sale by its proprietor, S. Edward Paschall. The price asked is \$5,000, and the old weekly boasts of not having missed an issue since 1809. It is still published in the old three-story building on Church street, from which so many apprentice boys have gone out to success and fame. It was the apprentice day home of Bayard Taylor, the poet, and of many afterward distinguished jurists and journalists,

and its files are the best history of Chester county ever written. The paper was valued a few years ago at \$80,000, and ought to find a quick purchaser at the low price at which it is offered. The proprietor boasts that it has been only three times in the market the present century. Linotype composition can be had at 18 cents a thousand.

The Village Record is interesting to Wilkes-Barre people as having been owned nearly eighty years ago by Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming, father of the late William P. Miner, the founder of the Wilkes-Barre Record. The young Yankee printer, ridiculed by the Democracy of Chester as a "Yankee tin peddler," won his way to the esteem and confidence of the plain and practical members of the Society of Friends in that fine old county; and in 1824 he was elected to congress. Two years later he was re-elected, serving four years. Charles Miner returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1832, and died in 1865. In accordance with his wishes his resting place in Hollenback Cemetery is marked with a monument of native mountain stone, constructed within a comparatively short time.

DEATH OF MRS. MCCLINTOCK.

After suffering for a week with pleurisy and pneumonia, Mrs. Augusta, widow of the late A. T. McClintock, died at 7:45 o'clock, Sept. 24, 1895, at her cottage at Bear Creek,—fell asleep as peacefully and as happily as she had lived. Mrs. McClintock was taken ill a week before with pleurisy, which did not yield readily to treatment, and when pneumonia set in a few days later, her family and friends feared the worst.

Deceased was 79 years of age and was a daughter of the late Jacob Cist, one of the most eminent men whose deeds grace the pages of Wyoming's prolific history. Her mother was Sarah, daughter of the late Judge Matthias Hollenback, also of this city, and also one of the most noted men in early Wyoming. In the death of Mrs. McClintock, the last of the noted Cist family has passed away,—a family that has given to this valley some of its most esteemed, most cultured and most honored residents. The children of (Daily Record, Sept. 30, 1895.)

Jacob Cist, now all deceased, were Mrs. McClintock; Mrs. Emily Wright, wife of the late Harrison Wright; Mrs. Nathaniel Rutter; Ellen E., wife of the late Rev. Dr. Dunlap, who also became

the wife of Nathaniel Rutter; Sarah A., wife of Peter T. Woodbury.

Surviving Mrs. McClintock are a boy and daughter—Andrew H. McClintock, the well known attorney, and Mrs. J. V. Darling. Children deceased are: Miss Helen, who died in 1894; Miss Jean, who died in 1890; and a child that died in infancy. Her husband, A. Todd McClintock, one of the most prominent attorneys in the country, died Jan. 14, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. McClintock were married in this city May 11, 1841.

Those who were fortunate enough to know Mrs. McClintock will weave a garland to her memory whenever they think of her. A nobleness of heart, a nobleness of mind, an unselfish devotion to the higher ideals of life,—these were her characteristics and these are attributes that live on with the soul. In her death the community has occasion to mourn.

Jacob Cist, father of Mrs. McClintock, was one of the most accomplished and most active men of his time. He was born in Philadelphia and was educated at the Moravian Seminary at Nazareth, Pa. After his school days he assisted his father in his printing office in Philadelphia and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1808 and was postmaster, an office which he retained until his death in 1825. His spare time he devoted to literature and painting, arts in which he was exceedingly accomplished. He was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Matthias Hollenback, in Wilkes-Barre. After his marriage he went to Washington for a short time and then returned to Wilkes-Barre in 1808 and entered into partnership with his father-in-law under the name of Hollenback & Cist, a partnership which existed for a number of years.

In his early days Mr. Cist's attention was attracted to the use of anthracite coal and he often watched his father's experiments. He studied the coal measures and spent considerable time investigating the embryo mines at Plymouth and especially the old Lord Butler opening. In 1814 he introduced coal in Baltimore and Philadelphia, but the country was then still disturbed and people had not much time to experiment with the new fuel and the business was a failure. The year following he resolved to try it again and sent a large cargo to Philadelphia and met with fair success. In December of that year Jacob Cist, Charles Miner and John Robinson se-

cured a lease from the old Lehigh Coal Mine Co. of its property near Mauch Chuk, and the fuel was sent to the cities by way of the canal. The firm impressed upon the people the value of the fuel by sending out handbills liberally and casting models of coal stoves and distributing them. The business continued to prosper, but soon Liverpool and other coal came in competition and the people did not take kindly to the Lehigh anthracite. The business was later abandoned. Although Mr. Cist was no longer actively engaged in the coal business, he had so much faith in the future of the industry that his mind was constantly devoted to perfecting methods for using anthracite. He was a thorough geologist and studied the geology of this region more than any other person and his pamphlets were recognized as authority. In this line he also became noted. Mr. Cist was one of the founders of the Luzerne County Agricultural Society and became an authority as well upon fruit and fruit culture. He was treasurer of Luzerne County in 1816, was treasurer of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co., a charter member and first chasier of the old Susquehanna Bank. His geological investigations led him to believe that iron ore abounded in this vicinity and he was instrumental in forming an organization for establishing an iron works at Shickshinny. He founded a glass works at Washington and tried to have one built in Wilkes-Barre, but the plan failed. He died on Friday, Dec. 30, 1825, aged 43 years, and left a memory that will live as long as old Wyoming.

DEATH OF MRS. JANE LEE.

Mrs. Jane Lee, of 116 North Street, died at 10 o'clock p. m., Sept. 26, 1895, of heart disease and dropsy, aged nearly 80 years.

The funeral was held Sept. 27th from her late residence on North street. The pall bearers were: William Dickover, M. H. Post, Theron Burnett, John Hessel, O. M. Brandow and B. M. Espy. Interment was in Hollenback Cemetery. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Mills, and Rev. W. J. Day of Plymouth made an address concerning the life of the deceased.

Mrs. Jane (Lines) Lee was a native of Newport Township, and was 79 years, 9 months and 10 days old. She was a descendant of Conrad and Mary (Fairchild) Lines, pioneer settlers of

Hanover and Newport Townships. Feb. 10, 1834, she was united in marriage to Stephen Lee, son of James Lee, also a pioneer settler of Newport Township. After their marriage they moved to Delaware County, Ohio, where they resided for six years. At the expiration of this time they returned to Luzerne County and Stephen Lee engaged in lumbering in Wright Township. Wright Township was formed from Hanover Township April 12, 1851. Stephen Lee opened the first store in the township, and was the pioneer blacksmith, his shop and store being near Samuel B. Stivers's place. In 1858, Stephen Lee was elected justice of the peace for that township. In 1865 the family moved to Newport, on the Middle Road, as it was then called. When 19 years of age, just after her marriage, she was converted and united with the M. E. Church. They were earnest members of the M. E. Church. When old age came, and they removed to Wilkes-Barre, they lived happy years, enjoying the fruits of their honest toil and thrift, and rejoicing to see their children blessed and prosperous. In June 12, 1874, the husband passed away at the age of 62 years. Their marriage was blessed with seven children: John R. Lee, Conrad, Mary, Priscilla, Amanda, Samuel, Washington. Five survive their mother: John R. Lee, Wilkes-Barre; Conrad Lee, Wilkes-Barre; Mary E. Lee, Wilkes-Barre; Priscilla, Mrs. M. S. Roberts, Lenoxville, Pa.; Amanda, Mrs. Edward Lutsey, Clarke's Green, Pa.

CROSSING OF THE DELAWARE.

Doylestown, Pa., Oct. 6, 1895.—The dedication of the monument erected near Taylorsville, this county, to mark the spot where Washington crossed the Delaware River before the battle of Trenton, on Christmas evening, 1776, will take place under the auspices of Bucks County Historical Society, Tuesday, Oct. 8. The monument comprises two square blocks of Jersey brownstone, the gift of Mrs. Letitia Twining of Yardly. It is six feet in height and weighs five and one-half tons. Upon one side will be cut an inscription.

At the conclusion of the exercises on the Pennsylvania shore the Society of Cincinnati of New Jersey will unveil a memorial tablet marking the spot of Washington's landing on the Jersey shore, which will be attended by the Pennsylvanians.

DANIEL COXE KILLED.

(Daily Record, Sept. 7, 1895.)

No greater shock could have been felt by the communities of Drifton, Free-land and others in that vicinity than the announcement Friday evening that Daniel Coxe, a member of the noted Coxe family, had been killed at his home at Drifton. Couriers were sent to the home, and when the news was confirmed business in those places was at once suspended, flags were placed at half mast, emblems of mourning were displayed and the people gathered in groups on the principal streets and discussed the sad event.

Daniel Coxe was a mechanical genius, and when not occupied with the duties of his position as general superintendent of the D., S. & S. R. R. (the Coxes' road of about fifty miles in length, encircling their collieries in the Hazleton region), he was working out some mechanical device of his invention. Giving scope to his mechanical bent, he had constructed in the rear of his residence at Drifton a narrow gage railroad several miles in length, and upon this placed a miniature locomotive of about five horse power, which he himself constructed and had on exhibition at the World's Fair at Chicago. With this locomotive he frequently studied the effect of new machinery and mechanical devices, and frequently seated himself in the cab and sent it over the small road.

Daniel Coxe was born in Philadelphia Nov. 1, 1866, and was 29 years of age. In early life he removed to Drifton with his father, Alexander E. Coxe, who is a brother of the late Eckley B. Coxe, and pursued his education under private tutorship. He showed a special aptitude for the mechanic arts and studied hard along those lines. He supplemented his education by extensive tours of Europe and visited all of the large mechanical establishments in the old country. Soon after the death of his uncle, the lamented Hon. Eckley B. Coxe, May 13 last, deceased was made superintendent of the Drifton, Schuylkill & Susquehanna R. R., and also had supervision of some of the Coxe mines in the Hazleton region. His father, Alexander Coxe, a brother of Hon. Eckley B. Coxe, is one of the

owners of the extensive interests of the family and is general superintendent of those interests.

Deceased was recently appointed by Governor Hastings one of the trustees of the State Hospital at Hazleton. He was married last October to Miss Margaret White of Drifton, whose father, J. B. White, is superintendent of the Coxe collieries. The unfortunate young man's growth was interrupted when quite young, when a nurse who was carrying him let him fall and partially fractured his spine.

He was very popular in the Hazleton region and all of the Coxe employes, as well as others, admired him for his kindness, his goodness of heart. He mingled with the men and made their interests his own and thus gained their good will and highest esteem. In fact it has always been said that no citizen in the lower end has been more popular than young Daniel Coxe.

He was the only Republican in the large family, his uncle, Eckley B. Coxe, having been a Democratic ex-State senator, and all the other members of the family having followed the Democratic faith. His influence in politics was felt with great power during the late Quay and Hastings contest, as he, with Congressman John Leisenring, had charge of the Hastings interests in the Fourth District and succeeded in having a Hastings delegate elected when such a result was scarcely dreamed of. His career in politics promised to be very interesting.

Deceased's ancestor, Dr. Daniel Coxe, came from England in 1702 and was married to Sarah, daughter of Judge Eckley of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Dr. Coxe subsequently became governor of New Jersey and died in 1730. His son, Col. Daniel Coxe, was born in 1663 and died in 1734; his son William was born in 1723 and died in 1801; his son, Hon. Tench Coxe, was born in 1755 and died in 1824; his son, Judge Charles S. Coxe, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born in Philadelphia, July 31, 1791 and died Nov. 19, 1879; his son, Alexander Coxe, father of deceased, was also born in Philadelphia and removed to Drifton where he now resides. Hon. Tench Coxe, great-grandfather of the deceased, was commissioner of internal revenue under President Washington and was well known as a statesman, financier and author.

FINDING INDIAN SKELETONS.

(Daily Record, Sept. 9, 1895.)

Firwood in South Wilkes-Barre, the beautiful spot thrown open for the sale of lots by the Firwood Land Co., was evidently an Indian burying ground and has many historical associations clustering around it, judging by the number of Indian skeletons that are being unearthed by workmen who are excavating for cellars and making streets. A few weeks ago a number of Indian bones were dug up, but a few days ago contractor W. G. Downs's workmen came across three or four skeletons close together. The bones were in a good state of preservation and the fact that they were those of Indians was shown by the general formation of the skull and the prominent cheek bones. One of the skeletons was that of a woman. The frames were not lying horizontally but were in a sitting posture, the skulls being about four feet from the surface and the feet about ten feet. This was Indian custom of burial.

Near one of the skeletons was a pipe. It is made of stone, the bowl being perforated and worked around with rings, in the usual manner of Indian pipes. It is now in the possession of John Hull, one of the owners of the plot.

One of the skulls is now in the possession of John James of South Wilkes-Barre, a medical student. The other was taken by a young man whose name cannot be learned. It is probable that in a few days they will be given to the Historical Society.

Historians tell us that it was at Firwood or near it that the famous "grass-hopper" controversy took place between Indians attached to Queen Esther, who figures so prominently in the history of Wyoming Valley, and other tribes and that many were killed. It is quite probable that more skeletons will be unearthed.

HE WAS BORN IN NEW JERSEY.

The late Wilson Swayze, who died at his residence in Plains Sept. 23, 1895, was born in Warren County, New Jersey, in 1821, and moved to Luzerne County in 1858. His wife, who was a daughter of John Albert of Warren County, New Jersey, died Nov. 19, 1875, and was buried in the Union Church grave yard at Hope, Warren County, New Jersey. His remains were laid beside those of his wife. He leaves a grown up family of two sons and six daughters.

CARROLLTON OWNED LUZERNE LANDS.

An article in the Library Newsletter, by Rev. E. H. Hayden of this city, on "Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence," has been reprinted in pamphlet form. It is an interesting sketch of that eminent Revolutionary patriot and contains some facts not heretofore published. Though a Maryland man, Mr. Carrollton owned 27,000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, of which a thousand acre tract was in Bradford County. This was in 1815.

CURIOUS OLD INDIAN AXES.

In 1887 there were found in Forty Fort some Indian relics. The Record is shown a memorandum made by the late Steuben Jenkins at the time:

Wyoming, Pa., Nov. 16, 1887. * * *
Some two or three months since I called at Isaac Tripp's at Forty Fort, and he and his son showed to me an axe, with loop head and long bit, known as the Biscay axe, because a large number of like shape and fashion were made by the French at Biscay, and taken among the Indians in Western New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania, about Chautauqua Lake, N. Y., French Creek, Conneaut Lake, Cussewago Creek and Venango, about two hundred years ago. The French had an idea that they could get the Indians to clear and cultivate the land and become a settled people, and these axes were furnished them to enable them to cut down the forests. The Indians, however, took different view of the situation and made use of the axes for tomahawks. The English soon found it necessary, that they might successfully compete with the French, to furnish the Indians in their interest with the same kind of axes; hence these axes are found scattered all over the country of New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, of either the French or English make. I have four of them, two large and two smaller,—two found here and two from French Creek, Crawford County. I think the Tripp axe is English. It was said to have been found in digging near Joseph Smith's, on the site of the old fort. Samuel Smith, in the U. S. Rev. Office, is a son of Joseph Smith.

Steuben Jenkins.

A POET PRESIDENT.

Two Poems Written for Former
Wilkes-Barre People by President
John Quincy Adams — Anti-
Masonic Days Recalled.

Among the accomplishments of John Quincy Adams was his gift as a writer of poetry. There are no less than two autograph specimens held by Wilkes-Barre people.

When Hon. Charles Miner, the historian of Wyoming, was in Congress, (1824 to 1830) he formed the acquaintance of many distinguished contemporaneousmen, among them John Quincy Adams. Mr. Miner was a mason, a member of Lodge 61, Wilkes-Barre, and when the wave of anti-masonry swept the land and carried Mr. Adams from the side of his old political friends, he wrote a lively letter to Mr. Miner, deprecating any estrangement or breach of personal friendship on that account, and enclosed some verses, as follows:

"To Charles Miner, Esq., 18 October, 1831:

'Idem velle alque idem nolle, eadem firma Amicitia est.'—Cataline in Sallust.

'Amicus Socrates, Amicus Plato, sed magis Amicus Veritas.'—Cicero.

Say, brother, will thy heart maintain
The Roman's maxim still;
That nothing brightens Friendship's Chain
Save Unity and 'Will.'
Ah no. Unhallowed was the thought;
From perjured lips it came,
With Treachery and with falsehood
fraught
Not Friendship's sacred flame.

To 'Roman' Virtue shall we turn,
To kindle Friendship's fires?
From purer sources let us learn
The Duties she requires,
To Tully's deathless page ascend
The surest guide of youth,
There shall we find him Plato's Friend,
But more, the friend of truth.

And thou to me, and I to thee,
This maxim will apply;
And leaving Thought and Action free
In Friendship live and die.
Be thine the Compass and the Square
While I discard them both,
And thou shalt keep and I forbear,
The 'Secret' and the 'Oath.'"

These interesting verses never became public property until Charles Miner's son, the late William P. Miner, founder of the Wilkes-Barre Record, published them in the issue of April

22, 1876. He wrote the following editorial in explanation:

"When John Quincy Adams was 64 years old he was elected to Congress on the flood-tide of anti-masonry. The death of Morgan, who had been accused of revealing the secrets of masonry, brought down on that order the fiercest attacks, as murderers whose oaths bound them to take the life of any one so offending. The connection of the ex-president with the anti-masons was, of course, distasteful to his old friends in the order who had faithfully supported his administration, which had so recently terminated. It is not likely that Mr. Adams believed the charges against the masons. Mr. Wirt, who had been nominated for president by the anti-masons national convention at Baltimore in 1831, wrote to the convention: 'I was myself initiated in the mysteries of free masonry, and although I discontinued my attendance at lodges it proceeded from no suspicion on my part that there was anything criminal in the institution or anything that placed its members in the slightest degree in collision with their allegiance to the country and its laws.' Mr. Wirt advised them to consider their action and if they had made a mistake to change the nomination. Charles Miner then resided in West Chester, Pa., and was a member of the masonic fraternity. Often he told of the blending of political opinions in the friendly meetings of Lodge 61, in Wilkes-Barre, all party discord being excluded. In Chester the anti-masons were particularly bitter, and the contest between the National Republican friends of Mr. Clay and the anti-masonic supporters of Mr. Wirt was as fierce as it could be. In Luzerne Chester Butler and Col. Beach, with many others who had acted with the anti-masons, were supporting Mr. Clay. Perhaps the fight was not anywhere more desperate than in Chester County, as patronage was with the anti-masons for a time. Whether Mr. Miner had as editor of the Village Record, come in contact with his old friend, Mr. Adams, we do not remember. Mr. Miner had served in Congress during his administration, and was one of his warmest supporters. Among the papers and letters left in his secretary we find a long letter from Mr. Adams, dated Quincy, 18th October, 1831, in which in many subjects, general, political and personal, he concludes: 'Having wasted so much of my time

in the composition of rhyme as to have acquired some faculty in tacking syllables together, I have chiefly confined myself to translation, with now and then a few original lines for a young lady's album or such as these herewith enclosed, which, as they happen to please or displease you, may be put on the file or in the fire."

The verses are still 'enclosed' and have not before been published that we can find. We give them as original."

* * *

Another by Mr. Adams.

A second local poem by the ex-president is in the autograph album of the late Mrs. Elizabeth Beaumont Collings (died Jan. 20, 1886), who when a young miss of 20 was in Washington with her father, Hon. Andrew Beaumont, who was then serving in Congress. Her family all inherited much talent, and this was supplemented by the best education obtainable. To Miss Beaumont's ready mind was added the gift of rare conversational powers, and she at once became a society favorite in Washington, when she accompanied her father there during his official residence. It was whilst there that she met all the statesmen prominent in "the thirties," and her autograph album contains bits of sentiment from President James K. Polk and Andrew Jackson and a poem of four stanzas by John Quincy Adams, besides the autographs and good wishes of scores of other names well known in the political history of the country. The following is the autograph poem of Mr. Adams:

To Miss Elizabeth Beaumont.

Fair maiden, when the sacred page
The words of kindness would impart,
The Friend, the Lover, Father, Sage
Speaks, says the volume, to the heart;

But how shall one in life's decline
Laden with three score years and ten,
Speak to the tender heart of thine
Or greet thee with an iron pen?

Let thine own heart, fair maiden frame
The words thyself would most desire,
Fraught with a lover's fervent flame,
Chaste with a father's holiest fire.

Then to thyself the words apply,
Believe them from my heart to flow,
Yet shall they not one-half supply
The bliss my wishes would bestow.

John Quincy Adams.

Washington, Jan. 25, 1837.

* * *

After her return to Wilkes-Barre,

Miss Beaumont was one of the leading society women, and was finally wooed and won by Hon. Samuel P. Collings, at that time a prominent journalist, and afterwards one of the leading politicians of the valley. President Pierce appointed Mr. Collings consul to Tangiers; thither she went with him to reside a year, when he died of African fever.

At the time Mr. Adams wrote the above verses he was 70 years of age and a poor broken-down man, whose life had been embittered by his failure to secure a re-election to the presidential chair. He was, however, elected to Congress and so valuable were his anti-slavery services that he was returned every term thereafter until his death in the speaker's room of the House in 1848.

WAR REMINISCENCES OF JOHN DOWLING.

John Dowling, a veteran of the war for the Union, and an ex-member of Co. D, 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry. Army of the Cumberland, is quite ill at his home, 51 Regent street.

Mr. Dowling was on detached duty at headquarters Department of the Tennessee as a courier during Gen. Sherman's campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and was honored by being intrusted to carry Sherman's final message to Gen. Slocum, commanding 20th Army Corps, at Sandtown, after the line had been severed, the 20th Corps having been withdrawn across the Chattahoochee River. This movement led the Confederates to believe that Slocum had abandoned the siege of Atlanta, hence the preparation for jollification in the doomed city that evening. However, while Gen. Slocum of the 20th Corps was executing his orders, Gens. Sherman, Thomas and Howard were moving rapidly direct southwest with the main portion of Sherman's army. By this strategic move the enemy was deceived, and did not discover until too late that Sherman, with the major part of his army, was twenty-two miles to the rear, near Jonesboro. However, Gen. Hood, the Confederate commander, made a desperate effort to save his communications by giving battle at Jonesboro, where the rebel army was defeated and cut in twain, one part southwest and the other east of Sherman. Thus Atlanta, the gate city of the South, fell into Union hands, after months of severe campaigning and many hard

fought battles, in which the Union Army lost 37,000 men from the commencement of the campaign at Chattanooga to the fall of Atlanta.

Rock Faced Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Altoona, Kenesaw Mountain, Chatta-hoochee, Peach Tree Creek, Jonesboro and Atlanta were the principal engagements of this memorable campaign, which prepared the way for marching through Georgia to the sea, and later through the Carolinas and the final winding up of the greatest rebellion of modern times.

When Mr. Dowling was asked some questions relative to the part Luzerne boys took in Sherman's campaign, he became quite enthusiastic, and in speaking of his regiment, the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, stated with apparent pride that it was the only mounted squadron of Pennsylvanians that marched with Sherman down to the sea, and spoke in a very complimentary manner of the men from his native county, naming a few, as follows: The gallant Maj. Hancock, who commanded a battalion at the battle of Averysboro, N. C., lost a leg in that memorable engagement; Lieut. C. Walter, commanding Co. D in same battle, was a brother of the present sheriff of Luzerne County; the sedate Capt. Mac-knight, commander of Co. B, now resides at Plains, and the heroic Capt. George Smith of Co. L, whose horse was pierced by a bullet while the captain sat in the saddle, was a brother of Lieut. Fred Smith of Co. D, present treasurer of the Vulcan Iron Works; bugler Fred Cappler of Wilkes-Barre, of Co. D, entered the service early in 1861, and did duty until the last gun was fired in 1865. He has scars on his person that plainly indicate that he was at the front. Sergts. John Sorber and William Lape, who were captured at the battle of Spring Hill, Tenn., and held by the enemy for months, were distinguished members of Co. D from Luzerne. Lieut. William Pritchard, "The Sage of Hunlock," was Luzerne's war correspondent, and an honored member of the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry from beginning to the end of the regiment's service. Sergt. James Brady of South Main street, and present yardmaster for the D. & H. Canal Co., served with distinction through all the campaigns in which the 9th Cavalry participated. Here we will leave the survivor to tell his own tale among the people, of his triumphal march through Georgia, of his privations at Savannah, of his struggles through swamps in-

habited by alligators, and over the broad rivers of the Carolinas; of the fights, fires, explosions, doubts and triumphs suggested by Griswoldville, Branchville, Aiken, Congaree, Columbia, Cheraw, Fayetteville, Averysboro and Bentonville.

Let us now cast a glance back to 1861. We see a stalwart body of young men assembled on South Main street, near the old Wyoming House, prepared for the march to Kingston depot, where a train is in waiting to convey them to the regimental rendezvous, in the vicinity of Harrisburg, where the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry is organizing. Can we suppose for a moment that any one of this gallant band realizes the fact that many of them will never return to Luzerne. These facts have long since been verified, and the bones and dust of many now lay scattered through six different States of the South, traversed by the 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry—Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas. All have a portion of these remains, sacred to the memory of this noble group of young men from Luzerne.

HISTORICAL LECTURE COURSE. (Daily Record, Oct. 5, 1895.)

At the request of many citizens of different church affiliations, the chapter of St. Andrew's Brotherhood connected with St. Stephen's Church has engaged the services of Rev. Dr. W. G. Andrews, rector of Christ Church, Guilford, Conn., to deliver a course of three lectures in St. Stephen's parish building, on Tuesday, Nov. 12, Friday, Nov. 22, and Tuesday, Nov. 26. The general subject of these lectures is the Evangelical Revival of 1740 and American Episcopalians. As announced in the program of the Connecticut Society for University Extension, they deal with the characteristics of the revival of the Colonial Church of England; George Whitfield and the missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; historical position and functions of the Protestant Episcopal Church as affected by the Evangelical movement. Dr. Andrews will be pleasantly remembered by those who had the privilege of attending the exercises in the rooms of the Historical Society on the last Fourth of July, by invitation of the Sons of the Revolution, as being an attractive gentleman, broad-minded Christian, and well-equipped student of church history.

AN HONORED CITIZEN.

It is hardly necessary to say that the Record heartily endorses every word of the following tribute to Marx Long, which appeared in Tuesday's Leader:

It is seldom that a man who has been so actively engaged in business maintains his years with such degree of good health as the veteran merchant, Marx Long, of Public Square, who to-day celebrates his 78th birthday. Mr. Long came to Wilkes-Barre in 1842, when what is now a thriving and prosperous city, was but an insignificant town, scarcely any industries worth mentioning and a population which could almost be numbered among the hundreds. But he saw the possibilities of the future and settled in business, and for fifty-three years he has been a foremost retail merchant of Wilkes-Barre. He witnessed the growth of our city, saw the immense coal beds open and develop, watched the progress of travel from canal and stage to railroad, and electric car, and at all times looked after an immense and growing business.

For fifteen years he has been an active member of the poor board, and every trust reposed in him has been conscientiously fulfilled. He has ever been an upright, honest citizen, a good sound Democrat, and withal a man esteemed by everybody. He is the father of Leo, who succeeds him as manager of his business, and Isaac E., the veteran newspaper man on the Record.

Mr. Long's health is excellent and to-day he has been receiving the congratulations of his numerous friends. He promises to live long and that he may remain with us for many years to come is the wish of his numerous friends.

AN INTERESTING SUIT.

Philadelphia, Sept. 23, 1895—Argument was under way to-day before Justice Shiras and Judges Acheson and Butler in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in the suit of William Dugald Stuart, of London, England, a descendant of William Penn, against the city of Easton and county of Northampton to recover ground on which the former court house in Easton was situated.

The ground, which is 80 by 80 feet, was dedicated to Easton by Penn for a court house. After it had been used for that purpose the court house was

abandoned, and the site became a public park in the centre of Easton. Because the use was abandoned it was claimed for Mr. Stuart as having reverted to the Penn possessions. The record of title starts from the granting by Charles II. of the province of Pennsylvania, in 1681, to William Penn and his heirs, down to the death of William Stuart in July, 1874. The Stuarts descended from the marriage of Sophia Margaret Penn, a daughter of Thomas Penn, with William Stuart, archbishop of Armagh.

Upon the death of Thomas Gordon Penn in 1689, the remainder of the general Penn estate in Pennsylvania vested in William Stuart, oldest son of Sophia Margaret Penn.

The various private estates in land in Pennsylvania vested in him under the act of April 27, 1855, representatives only being allowed as far as children of uncles and aunts. The grandfather of the claimant married Henrietta, daughter of Admiral Sir Charles Pole. His will said: "I give, devise and bequeath all my real estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever, of which I have any power of distribution, and all my personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever to my eldest son, William Stuart, his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns absolutely."

The will was approved in London, Sept. 26, 1874, and recorded in Philadelphia, Dec. 23, 1876.

For the plaintiff it is urged that he has vested in him all rights of the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, both under the entail and will.

In the Circuit Court a verdict for the defendant was taken. There was no testimony heard for the defense, but the verdict was rendered under instructions from Judge Dallas.

The case originally came up six years before, and at that time a verdict was also rendered for the defendants. After the trial in 1889, which took place before Judge McKennan, the case was taken before the Supreme Court, and after considerable delay that tribunal decided that the record was imperfect, because the plaintiff was described as a citizen of London, England, instead of an alien and a subject of the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. The case was remanded to the Circuit Court, with leave for application to be made for amendment and for further proceedings. The verdict before Judge Dallas was founded upon the original proceed-

ings that were sent to the Supreme Court, and put the matter in shape to show that the Circuit Court had jurisdiction.

In the history of the case presented for the plaintiff it is stated that this was an action of ejectment. It was brought by the heir-at-law of the Penns, the former proprietaries of Pennsylvania. The question turns upon the construction of the grant of Sept. 28, 1764, and it is recited that "By an Act of General Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania, passed March 11, 1752, the upper portion of Bucks County was erected into a separate county called Northampton.

"At that date counties were not possessed of full corporate powers, and hence the act named John Jones and others trustees of said county, with power under Section 6 to acquire a lot in some convenient place in the town of Easton in said county for the purpose of a court house and prison.

"On July 9, 1762, Thomas and Richard Penn, the proprietaries of Pennsylvania, issued a warrant to John Jones and others, the above named trustees, for a lot eighty feet square in the centre of the great square at Easton.

"Subsequently a survey of said lot was returned into the land office, and on Sept. 28, 1764, a patent was issued by said proprietaries to John Jones and others for said lot.

"The grant was for a nominal consideration of five shillings and the reservation of an annual rent of a red rose

"The premises of the patent, after reciting the act of assembly, proceed: 'Now know ye that for the further encouragement and better promoting the public benefit and service of said town and county, and for and in consideration of the yearly quit rent (one red rose), hereinafter reserved, and of the sum of five shillings, we have given, granted, released and confirmed, etc., unto the said trustees, John Jones, etc., and their heirs, the said lot.'"

Among other matters submitted for the plaintiff, it is stated that "the present case was tried in 1838 in the Circuit Court of the United States for the eastern districts of Pennsylvania before Judge McKennan and removed by a writ of error to the Supreme Court of the United States, where it was argued at length in January last. In the pleadings the then plaintiff was described as a citizen of London, Eng-

land, instead of as an alien. For this reason, after hearing full argument upon the merits, the Supreme Court before further disposing of the case, ordered the record to be returned to the Circuit Court with instructions to permit an amendment. Such amendment was duly made, and the case retried on the same evidence, and for the purpose of appeal, the same rulings and binding instructions were given as at the first trial, as will appear by the opinion of Judge Dallas. An application was then made to the Supreme Court to hear the case, which was refused upon the ground that a writ of error must be first taken to this court.

"As the facts are the same with the exception of the son of the plaintiff for the original plaintiff, who died during the pendency of the suit, it has been deemed wise to present the same brief."

Attorneys C. Berkley Taylor, A. T. Freedley and W. Brooke Rawle appeared for the plaintiff, and Aaron Goldsmith and Edward J. Fox of Easton for the defendants.

(William Dugald Stuart, the plaintiff in the above case, recently began actions in eviction in the courts of this county to recover several tracts in the lower end of Plymouth Township, which formerly were a part of the Manor of Sunbury).

PRIZE FOR HISTORICAL ESSAY.

The Wyoming members of the Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution offer a prize of \$10 to the pupils of the public schools in Luzerne County for the best written essay on the subject of Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary War.

This essay must contain not less than 1776 words, a little less than a column and a half of the Record. It must be written in a clear hand on one side of the paper, then enclosed in an envelope without the name of the author, but with a fictitious name and sent to the secretary, Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden. The author's name must, however, be sent in a separate and sealed envelope with the essay. The sealed envelope must also contain a certificate from the principal of the school in which the writer may be a pupil, stating that the contestant has been a pupil during the session.

This essay must be sent to the secretary before April 1, 1896, when all will be submitted to a committee for examination and award.

A MONUMENT OF THE OLD INDIAN WARS.

The first permanent white settlement in Steuben County was made at the Painted Post in 1786 by Samuel Harris, an Indian trader. There was at that time an important village of Seneca Indians established on the banks of the Conhocton River, near the junction of the waters of the Tioga, Canisteo and Conhocton rivers, which here form the Chemung and pass on to the Susquehanna. Beyond a doubt the Six Nations appreciated the strategic importance of the Painted Post, where three long valleys came together, bringing water, which leaves no trail. Through this gateway the war cloud from the Geneshago, or Shining Valley, descended in July, 1778, upon an errand of savage vengeance to the Wyoming. By the same route, as well as by the waters of the Conhocton, the former lords of the soil retreated from the battlefield of Newtown, where Gen. Sullivan and his yeomanry on Aug. 29, 1779, dealt a deathblow to the power of the great Indian confederacy.

The first white man found a name made to order for the place, and that name still remains the most interesting feature of the locality. The advantages of river and valley have dwindled away before the superior enterprise and courage of men who many years later settled in the narrow bottoms at Corning, two miles distant. The latter is now a city of 12,000 inhabitants, while Painted Post has been incorporated a village with a population of 1,800 persons.

The present painted post stands at the southeast corner of the cross roads. It is about 18 feet high and octagonal in shape painted red. It is 8 inches in diameter, tapers at the top and is surmounted by a sheet iron Indian chief grasping a tomahawk and bow and dressed in a red jacket and buckskin trousers. The original post stood near the center of the present highway leading from Painted Post to Corning and a few rods east of the "Four Corners" and the sight of the present post. It was an oak post 10 to 12 feet above the ground and from 10 to 14 inches in diameter. It was square to a height of four feet above the ground and then octagonal to the top.

Samuel Cook of Lindley thus described it to the late Charles H. Erwin of Painted Post, as detailed by the latter in his manuscript "A History of

Painted Post and Other Towns," now in the hands of his executors: "When in 1792 I saw it for the first time, it had no marks or paint upon it, and it had the color of a weather beaten oaken rail. There was neither mark nor carving upon it. I have many a time sat near it and with others talked about it and speculated about its history." It stood on the banks of the Conhocton River at the side of a well beaten trail from the village to Tioga Point (Athens, Pa.)

This post remained until 1801 or 1802, when it is said to have been dug up and carried down the Chemung River two miles to Knoxville, whether for the purpose of founding a museum or for the more serious object of purloining the fame which encircled the oak post is not clear. It was afterward returned, but in the meantime a new oak post had been erected by the whites in the settlement near the original site. What became of the old post is not known for certain. It is said to have remained in the garret of the first log tavern, and chips from it were furnished to relic hunters until one day in a moment of impatience Col. Erwin, the landlord of the tavern, adjudged it a nuisance and ordered it thrown into the river.

In the course of the next 20 years the new post, which was much larger than the old one, was chipped to pieces by relic fiends, and a few years later a new post was raised with a sheet iron Indian at the top.

The generally accepted legend concerning the post makes a very pretty story. It is said that Capt. Roland Montour, a half breed and a son of Queen Catharine of Wyoming fame, was seriously wounded in the fight at Newtown and died on the retreat up the Conhocton. He was buried under a large elm tree, and the "Te-can-nes-to," as the post was called by the Delawares, was set up as an imposing monument to his memory. This legend was confirmed by the statement made by the Seneca Chief Cornplanter to Capt. Samuel Adams in an interview had at Cornplanter's Eddy on the Alleghany River in 1833.

Cornplanter, being asked about the post, said through his interpreter, as related by Capt. Adams, that a great chief and brave was there taken sick, died and was buried under the shade of an elm on the north side of the Conhocton River (at the same time mapping it out on the ground floor and

THE PITTSTONS IN '44.

The Year in Which Rev. Dr. Parke
Began Work There.

INTERESTING STORY OF DAYS PAST.

Historical Address Delivered by Rev. Dr.
Parke Before the Wake Robin Club,
of West Pittston, at the Home of Hon.
Theo. Strong, on Monday Evening,
February 16th.

From Pittston Gazette, Feb. 27, 1896.

I saw Pittston for the first time on the Monday succeeding the first Sabbath of June, 1844. I fix the date by the fact that during the week previous I learned that James K. Polk had been nominated by the Democratic party as a candidate for President of the United States. I had spent the Sabbath in Wilkesbarre, where I supplied the pulpit of the Rev. Dr. Dorrance, who was absent attending a meeting of the Presbyterian General Assembly, and on Monday morn'g came here on horseback, having traveled in this way during the previous week about two hundred miles from my father's. I stopped at a public house kept by George Lazarus, where I was properly cared for. After dinner I looked up Theodore Strong, to whom I had letters of introduction and recommendation from Princeton Theological Seminary, having come here under the care of the Board of Home Missions to labor "in the Lackawanna valley and surrounding country."

Pittston was then, as now, "beautiful for situation" and environments, but without either coal breakers or culm piles to detract from its charms, at the confluence of the Lackawanna and Susquehanna rivers, where the Wyoming valley ends and the Lackawanna begins. Mrs. Sigourney,

in a beautiful little poem, speaks of Lackawanna as Su quehanna's "du-ky bride." This may have been a very happy union at the time the union took place, but the impression prevails that the bride in these latter days has very greatly degenerated.

Of what I found here in 1844, I am asked and expected to speak, and this will be my text. I cannot make mention of all I have found since coming here. That would be a record too extended for the occasion, a record of more than half a century of active life, interwoven with almost every department of Pittston's history. Here I did my first work, and in connection with Pittston I have done all my life work. I propose to speak of "the town" and "men and things," as they were when I came here. What they were previously we may know from history, as Professor Winchester, who has been entertaining the people of Wilkesbarre, knows the London of a hundred years ago. What Pittston now is, the young people of the Wake Robin Club know as well as I do.

PITTSTON FERRY.

On a Philadelphia paper that I subscribed for soon after coming here, the address is, unless it has been changed very lately, "Rev. N. G. Parke, Pittston Ferry." That was the name of our city fifty years ago. An attempt was made to change it to Port Mallory at one time, but it failed. There were no bridges connecting the East and West sides of our river, except occasional ice bridges that served a good purpose. There was a Pittston Ferry by which the traveler could "get over" if he could call loud enough to make the ferryman hear; and this ferry was one of the oldest, if not the oldest, in this part of the State. With this name, Pittston Ferry, Pittston is not second to Wilkesbarre in point of age. From the time the Susquehanna Land Company came here from Connecticut and led out the valleys into

seven townships, of which Pittston was one, people from Connecticut and the East, going to Exeter and Kingston and Plymouth, came down the valley through Providence and crossed the Susquehanna at Pittston Ferry, and returning they crossed the same ferry. The route from the Delaware River to the valley was through Pittston, rather than Wilkesbarre.

On my arrival here I found two public houses, one kept by John Sax, at the foot of Parsonage street, and the one at which I stopped, and at which the stage connecting Carbondale and Wilkesbarre stopped. This was a two-horse stage. It carried the mail and passengers when there were any to carry. It was the only public conveyance in the valley, and its arrival at Pittston was the sensational event of every day. There were no saloons in the town. It was as free from them as West Pittston is now, and a drunken man on the street, except on public occasions, was rarely seen. There were not to exceed half a dozen foreigners, and these were from England, Scotland, Ireland and France. The father of Thomas Ford, of West Pittston, was from England, James McFarlane was from Scotland, Squire Redding was from Ireland, and the father of R. D. Laro, who has made for himself a national reputation at the Smithsonian Institute, was from France. The people were for the most part "to the manor born." There was, so far as I remember, no poor house in the county and no call for one. Very rich men and paupers are usually found in the same locality. Neither of these classes was represented here. There were two stores. One was kept by the postmaster, a thrifty, intelligent Irishman, Mr. Redding, who opened his snuff box to all his customers. His store stood near where the Windsor Hotel now stands. The other store, which stood near the foot of the

plane, was superintended by Theodore Strong for the Butler Coal Company. These stores received and paid out very little money. They were largely stores of exchange. For butter and eggs and chickens, the farmers could buy sugar and tea and tobacco. The merchants did not pay cash for anything, for the best of reasons—they did not have it. An old country letter, which cost twenty five cents, to be paid for on delivery, was sometimes left in the postoffice some days, for want of money to take it out. The preacher's salary, which amounted to fifty dollars a year, was paid in trade. In fact, everything was paid in trade, except marriage fees, and they were sometimes paid in promises. There was but one bank in the county, the Wyoming Bank, of Wilkesbarre, and that discounted sparingly. Nothing but "gilt edged" paper would Cashier Lynch look at. This bank had the monopoly of the banking business in this part of Pennsylvania.

There was one shoemaker in the north end of town, James Helm; one tailor, Mr. McConeghy; one undertaker, Eliha Blackman, and one blacksmith, Thomas Benedict. These were the Pittston manufacturers fifty years ago. Harris Jenkins, a justice of the peace, was a representative man in Pittston, and his daughters, Annetta and Mary, were among the prominent and attractive young ladies of the town. There were two doctors, whose homes were in Pittston, and who practiced in the surrounding country, Dr. Nathaniel Giddings, who came to Pittston from Connecticut towards the close of the last century, and Dr. Curtis. Dr. Underwood had not up to this time commenced work here. These doctors were usually kept very busy in the autumn, dealing out quinine to "fever and ague" patients, who, it was said, "expended force enough in shaking to run a saw mill."

The chief occupation of the people in and around Pittston was farming, and they literally lived off their farms. There was no market for their produce short of Easton, seventy miles away. Peter Petty and Peter Wagner cultivated the "big farm" at the foot of Campbell's Ledge. They were both intelligent men and industrious farmers. They raised wheat, converted it into flour and carted it to Carbondale, where the D. & H. Coal Company were commencing operations, for which they received some money. Wilkesbarre was very much more of a town than Carbondale, but it was abundantly supplied from the Plymouth and Kingston farms with everything in the line of grain. Mr. Zenas Barnum, who owned the land on which the Barnum shaft was sunk, did some farming. He was a bright, enterprising man. There were few more pleasant homes in the valley than his, and few more attractive girls than his daughters. Richard Brown and Peter Nagle, who lived further up the valley; Nathaniel Giddings, who had a large farm in Upper Pittston; Jacob Lance, Adam Teauch, Newman Brown, John D. Stark, John Blanchard, 'Squire Winters and William Apple were representative farmers in the community. There were others. These I became acquainted with very soon after coming here. James W. Johnson and Abel Bennit were enterprising men who had taken up their abode in Pittston. They had purchased the land where the Miners' Savings Bank now stands, and as far south as Railroad street. They were really the projectors of East Pittston. They built and occupied the cottage that stands back from the street, now owned by Mr. Cutler, and among the very few houses that remain of those that were here in 1844. This cottage was tastily painted. They sunk the first coal shaft put down in Pittston, and shortly after sinking this sold out to the Pennsylvania

Coal Company. The venerable Capt. J.B. Smith was the only stone mason and brick layer in Pittston in 1844. There were no butchers, or bakers, or plumbers, or wagon makers, or engineers, or house painters, or brewers, or barbers, or millers, or bankers, or brokers, or lawyers, or gas men, or book agents, or druggists, or insurance agents, or dentists or printers. The result was, there were few bills to pay and that, under these circumstances, was a fortunate thing.

There was one, and but one, coal mine in Pittston. It was operated by men residing in Wilkesbarre, John and Lord Butler. It was back from the town some distance, at what is now known as the "burning mine." The coal was brought by rail to the top of Butler Hill, near where Mr. Anderson and Mr. Craig reside, and let down to the canal by a plane. This colliery never paid its owners any dividends, but swamped them financially.

There was no house of worship in the township of Pittston. Neither was there a resident minister of the Gospel here. Elder Miller, of Abington, and Dr. Dorance, of Wilkesbarre, buried the dead and married the young people. There was preaching once in two weeks by Elder Mott, who resided in Hyde Park, in a small school house near the Junction. There were not to exceed a dozen professing Christians in the town. These represented different denominations, but they all worshiped together happily. There had been church organizations at an earlier day, but they had all disappeared. There were none at this time. There was a Sabbath School in the school house where Elder Mott preached, conducted by Mr. Strong, with which some of the grey-haired men and women of today were connected.

There were not to exceed over two hundred people living in Pittston at this time, between Sebastopol and the Junction.

They resided for the most part along the Main street. The houses were "few and far between"—magnificent distances, but not magnificent houses, and as orderly arranged as stumps in a clearing. There certainly was not much that was tempting to one who was looking for a place to make a nice, cozy home for himself. On Main street, which was crooked as a ram's horn, the houses were so scattered that some one who was travelling to Pittston from Wilkesbarre did not know he was in town until he was through it. At the head of the canal he enquired for Pittston. There were no sidewalks here, and in muddy weather the pedestrians "waded." Cows and swine and geese had perfect freedom to wander where they pleased, with none to make them afraid. On one occasion one of our prominent citizens had a free ride on the back of a huge porker that attempted to run between his legs, possibly "to escape a mud hole."

There was really nothing here to make the town grow, nothing to stimulate the spirit of improvement. The time had not come for "shedding its old coat." The sleeping coal measures in the valley of Wyoming that have made it one of the richest valleys in the State of Pennsylvania, if not in the world, had not been aroused. A canal had been constructed connecting Pittston with the Chesapeake Bay at Havre-de-Grace, but the cost of transportation was so great and the price of coal so low that there was absolutely no money in the coal business. There certainly was no money here. I had reason to know this as I had something to do in a financial way with building the first church erected in the township. The people generally felt kindly toward the enterprise. They were pleased with the idea of having a sanctuary, but the funds necessary for erecting the church came very largely from abroad.

Two years after I came here, in 1846, about the time the first church building was dedicated, business began to brighten, and it has grown brighter ever since. Enterprising business men came here with their families, and they have transformed Pittston Ferry into a city and built up a town in West Pittston of six or seven thousand inhabitants that is as inviting as a place of residence as any town in Pennsylvania, where in 1844 were only farms. While East and West Pittston are entirely separate municipalities they are united by bridges that gracefully span our beautiful river. To all intents and purposes they are one, as Pittsburg and All-gheeny, and New York and Brooklyn are one. Here we now have elegant churches and growing and intelligent congregations and Sabbath schools, and Christian Endeavor societies, and Y. M. C. Association, representing all denominations, and palatial homes and first class public schools, and manufactories, and barks, and Music Halls, and, last but not least, a Wake Robin Club, of which any city might be proud. In fact we have a city equipped with all the appliances for comfort and improvement and progress that belong to any city. The transformation that has been effected here in the past half century, to those who were familiar with it at that time, appears like the work of a magician's hand.

Personally I am glad that I came here when I did, that I knew this valley in its comparative youth and beauty. We have grown together, and every stage of growth has been like the new picture that comes in the turning of the kaleidoscope. The great rivers that excite our admiration as they sweep toward the ocean and bear on their bosoms the commerce of the world, had their charms in the mountain streams they left before they were prepared for their burdens. The Pittston of fifty years ago is to the Pittston of today, as the mountain streams to the majestic rivers. I have had no reason to regret coming here.

(Continued from Page 60)

marking with his knife the place of the grave,) and that he (Cornplanter) was one of the council that placed over the grave a post, stained with the juice of the wild strawberry, to make the spot. He would not state the name or tribe of this great chief.

It was not Capt. Montour, for he, with his brother, John, appeared at the military post of Maj. Taylor, near Pittsburg, in December of the same year. Two years later the two brothers were with Col. Broadhead on the Muskingum, in Ohio.

Charles H. Erwin, in a pamphlet published as late as 1874, accepts Capt. Montour as the hero and martyr, but in his more recently prepared manuscripts cites the facts which show that the captain and his brother were active in the flesh for several years later at least.

Mr. Erwin in his latest work scouts the idea that the post was intended as a monument at all. Such a tribute to the dead was contrary to Indian nature and to any known custom among them. It seems highly improbable that so unusual an exception should be made very shortly after a battle in which the Indians had been worsted and when their white enemy might be expected to appear among them at any time. It is true, however, that excavations for cellars or wells in the neighborhood of the post have frequently unearthed Indian bones and relics.—New York Times.

ALMOST A HUNDRED YEARS.

A number of relatives of James Mitchell were entertained at the home of his son, H. V. Mitchell, in West Pittston, Oct. 6, 1895, in honor of his ninety-third birthday anniversary. At 2:30 the guests, forty-five in number, sat down to a fine repast. One of the features of the afternoon festivities was the singing of old familiar songs by Mr. Mitchell and his four sons. Mr. Mitchell is hale and hearty, and is remarkably active for one of his age.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. William Hollister, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Mitchell, Hollisterville; Mrs. Fred Bidwell and children, Dunmore; Miss Eva Whaite, Ariel; Palmer Hollister and daughter, Peckville; Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Mitchell and son, Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Long and son, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Rockafellow, Mrs. D. A. Rockafellow, Miss Vanchie

Mitchell, Emmett Mitchell, Scranton; Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Moore and daughter and Elmer Mitchell of Luzerne Borough; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Wolf, Pike's Creek; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Mitchell and daughters, Misses Jennie, Ollie and Mattie Mitchell, of this city.

HISTORIC FORTS.

(Daily Record, Oct. 5, 1895.)

A meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held last evening, Judge Stanley Woodward presiding, and a good attendance of members and friends. The feature of the evening was a paper by Capt. John M. Buckalew of Fishing Creek, Columbia County. That Capt. Buckalew was not a participant in the famous Fishing Creek Confederacy is shown by the fact that he fought in the Union army four years. He is one of the commissioners appointed by the governor to locate the various revolutionary forts in the State and report thereupon. The territory assigned him was the Sunbury region. Capt. Buckalew proceeded to read an interesting abstract of the report he has prepared for the State.

Fort Augusta.

Fort Augusta was built in 1756, at the forks of the Susquehanna, at present Sunbury. It was built on lands owned by the Indians, whose title was not extinguished until the Fort Stanwix treaty of 1763. The English and French were in the height of their contest for supremacy in North America. Braddock had been defeated the year before the fort was built, and the tribes professedly friendly to the English required careful handling to keep them so. The French held Canada and the lakes and now had their eyes on the forks of the Susquehanna, as a strategic point, which once held, would enable them, aided by their Indian allies, to desolate the English settlements then in easy reach.

It was the friendly Indians who first comprehended the importance of securing the forks and urged the English to make it a defence. Government approval having been secured the governor of Pennsylvania sent Col. William Clapham, an English officer, with a force of 300 men, and he built the fort in 1756. There is a tradition that they were none too soon, for that the French

sent a detachment to take possession of the forts, but that after descending the West Branch as far as Montoursville they learned of what the English had done and accordingly withdrew. Col. Clapham, who built the fort, was afterwards killed, and his family, in western Pennsylvania.

In 1777, the Indians being now particularly troublesome, Gen. Washington, on appeal from the authorities at Fort Augusta, ordered a line of forts to be built in this region. There were 11 of these. It was from Fort Augusta that Col. Hartley's expedition to Queen Esther's town was planned, resulting in the destruction of the place and the defeat of the Indians on the north branch above Wilkes-Barre. It was here that Col. Plunkett organized his expedition against Wyoming.

Fort Jenkins.

This was situated on the Susquehanna, midway between present Berwick and Bloomsburg. It was a log stockade built in 1777, garrisoned by 30 soldiers. It was the center of numerous engagements with the Indians.

Fort Wheeler.

It was built on Fishing Creek, about three miles from its mouth, by Lieut. Moses Van Campen, the well known Indian killer. It was here that in 1780 his father, brother and uncle were killed, and Moses Van Campen, Peter Pence and others taken prisoners by the Indians. While in camp near Wyandoming the prisoners succeeded in freeing themselves and killing their savage but sleepy captors.

Fort McClure,

About one mile above the mouth of Fishing Creek, at present Bloomsburg. It was built by Lieut. Moses Van Campen in 1781, as a support to Fort Wheeler.

Bosley's Mills,

In the forks of Chillisiquaque Creek, present Washingtonville, Montour Co. The mills were stockaded and garrisoned.

Fort Freeland,

Four Miles east of present Watson-town. Probably built in 1777. Nearly all the Freeland family were killed by the Indians here. The stockade was captured by a force of 300 British and Indians in 1779.

Fort Rice at Montgomery's,

Built in 1779. It is well preserved to this day, and was a formidable defense, resisting in 1780 an attack of 300 British and Indians.

Boone's Mills,

Between Watsonstown and Milton, built and fortified by Capt. Hawkins Boone, who was detached from duty with the Revolutionary army to assist in defending the frontiers and who was killed by the enemy.

Other forts touched on by Capt. Buckalew were:

Fort Schwartz, near Milton.

Fort Menninger, in Union County.

Fort Brady, near Muncy.

Fort Muncy, near Hall's Station.

Fort Antes, opposite Jersey Shore.

Fort Horn, near McElhattan.

Fort Reid, present Lock Haven.

Of all of these Capt. Buckalew had many interesting things to say. His paper was not lengthy and was written from memory from the formal report sent by him to Harrisburg.

A vote of thanks was tendered him and after the meeting many persons gathered round to question him further.

The following persons were elected to membership: John J. Hines, D. C. Harrower, Mrs. Stanley Woodward, Mrs. Priscilla L. Paine, A. A. Sterling, D. A. Fell, Jr., Miss Mae E. Turner, Mrs. Annette Jenkins Gorman, William C. Shepherd, J. C. Bridgman, Rev. H. H. Welles, D. D., Mrs. Mary F. Pfouts, Dr. F. Corss, W. Murray Alexander, W. V. Ingham, Mrs. Louise Dana Davis, Mrs. I. A. Stearns, Dr. J. T. Howell, Ira M. Kirkendall, Mrs. Katherine Umsted, Mrs. A. M. Maffet, Mrs. A. Farnham, Dr. E. U. Buckman, H. A. Fuller, Pierce Butler, B. Dorrance, F. W. Wheaton, Mrs. A. R. Brundage, L. D. Stearns, Mrs. M. B. Phelps, Miss Anna B. Phelps, R. P. Brodhead, C. W. Bixby, E. A. Rhoads, Miss Lucy B. Ingham, Leslie Ryman, H. J. Dennin, J. H. Timpson, P. M. Carhart, Mrs. J. W. Hollenback, C. H. Alexander, J. C. Paine, Miss Martha Bennet, Mrs. R. B. Hillard, Miss Julia Butler, Hon. A. Darte, Isaac M. Thomas, Gaius L. Halsey, John S. Harding, Cyrus Straw, Mrs. Sarah Parsons, Mrs. W. Scott Stites.

Elected to honorary membership—President Warfield of Lehigh University, Dr. Samuel A. Green, Bishop Rulison, J. P. Lesley, Dr. Samuel Hart.

Elected to corresponding membership—Henry W. Pickering, John M. Buckalew, John W. Jordan, W. M. Samson, George S. Conover, F. B. Gay.

AARON WHITAKER RETIRES.

Ex-Sheriff Aaron Whitaker, whose name has been synonymous with the tury, retired from active business Sept. 30, 1895. He will be succeeded by Gottterday. He will be succeeded by Gottlieb Baum, proprietor of Stegmaier's Hotel, who will take charge of the restaurant which he has conducted since he sold out his interest in the hotel.

Mr. Whitaker is over 70 years of age, and having become rather feeble in health, desired to retire from business. He has been in the hotel business twenty-three years, five years in White Haven, and eighteen in this city in the Exchange Hotel, with the exception of the past six months. He then took out a license for his present stand adjoining the Exchange Hotel and called it the Exchange House. While in business at White Haven, in 1871, he was elected sheriff of Luzerne County, which position he filled with credit to himself as well as the people who elected him. He bought the interest of the Shimer estate in the Exchange Hotel in 1877. In 1886 he rented the adjoining building and had it annexed. This was reserved when he sold it to E. M. Smith, the present proprietor, July 1, 1894.

WHEN PAPER WAS SCARCE.

Paper was so scarce when the American army entered Philadelphia upon the evacuation of the British troops that there was a want of paper for the construction of cartridges. It was advertised for and but a small quantity procured. An order was then issued demanding its instant production by all the people in that city who had it.

This produced but little more, very probably on account of its scarcity. A file of soldiers was then ordered to make search for it in every place where any was likely to be found. Among other places visited in July was a garret in the house in which Benjamin Franklin had previously had his printing office.

Here was discovered about 500 copies of a sermon which the Rev. Gilbert Tenant had written—printed by Franklin—upon "Defensive War" to arouse the colonists during the French troubles. They were all taken and used as cases for musket cartridges and at once sent to the army. Most of them were used at the battle of Monmouth. The requisites in cartridge paper were, of

course, thinness, strength, pliability and inflammability, and such paper then was necessarily scarce.

In 1871 paper was so scarce that in New York the journal of the second session of the assembly was not printed, the printer being unable to procure the necessary paper. Horner, in his "Bibliotheca Americana"—1789—informs us that "at this time the people of North America manufactured their own paper and in sufficient quantities for home consumption, but the price of labor was so high as to discourage publishing beyond their own laws, pamphlets and newspapers." Some two years after this date David Bull, postmaster of Troy, N. Y., published the following homily under the head "Please Save Your Rags."

"The press contributes more to the diffusion of knowledge and information than any other medium. Rags are the primary requisite in the manufacture of paper, and without paper the newspapers of our country, those cheap, useful and agreeable companions of the citizen and farmer, which in a political and moral view are of the highest national importance, must decline and be extinguished. The paper mills of the State, would the poor and the opulent, the farmer and the mechanic, be persuaded into the laudable frugality of saving rags, would turn out ample supplies of American paper to answer all demands.

"The people of Massachusetts and Connecticut, with true American zeal, have introduced this exemplary saving into the economy of their houses. The latter, by fair calculation, makes yearly a saving of rags to the actual amount of \$50,000. The ladies in several large towns display an elegant workbag as part of the furniture of their parlors, in which every rag that is used in the paper mill is carefully preserved. Were this example imitated this State would not be drained of its circulating cash for paper and other manufacturers which American artists can furnish.

"The poor by the mere saving of rags may be enabled to procure paper and books for schools and family use and more agreeable articles of dress and consumption. The rich who regard the interest of their country will direct their children or domestics to place a bag in some convenient place as a deposit for rags, that none may be lost by being swept into the street or fire, the sales of which savings will

reward the attention of the faithful servant and encourage the prosperous enterprise of prudence and frugality."

The industries of the country grew so fast that in 1810 the number of paper mills in the United States was estimated at 185, of which 60 were in Pennsylvania.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

No. 1.

The following patriotic lines were written in 1863 by Rev. Joshua Peterkin, D. D., an Episcopal clergyman of Richmond, Va., on the occasion of a visit to Wilkes-Barre, his wife being a sister of Mrs. Fred Mercur. His son, the Right Rev. George William Peterkin, is the present bishop of the diocese of West Virginia:

Here let me rest, by fair Wyoming's side,
Where Susquehanna's placid water's glide,
While sparkling streams 'mid meadows
rolling free,

Pay willing tribute to the distant sea.
Upon this spot where ninety years ago
The patriot settlers met their savage foe
In vain defense, and dyed the shrink-
ing flood

With rich libations of their patriot
blood,—

Amid these scenes my fancy roams afar
And brings me back anew the din of war.
I hear the war whoop as it rolls along
The vale made famous by the poet's song,
The shriek, the shout, the yell, the dying
groan,

All sounds discordant mingled into one.
Old Albert too, and Gertrude now arise,
And Walgrave's manly form to greet my
eyes,

And Outalissi, with his descendant wild
Sung amid sobs, as for an only child.
But these all vanish, and I stand alone
Beside a simple monument of stone,
Raised to commemorate their deeds and
tell

The passing stranger how they nobly fell
Defending altars, homes and cultured
sod—

The cause of man, of freedom and of God.
'Tis well—such monuments there ought
to be

To keep in mind the thought of Liberty—
To warn the invader, whencesoe'er he
comes

With fire and sword to desolate our
homes,

That though his stronger arm may now
succeed,

And virtue sink o'erwhelmed by force
and greed,

Though might 'gainst right may for a
time prevail,

Despite the widow's tear, the orphan's
wail—

Yet future ages will redress the wrong,
Embalm the patriot in the poet's song,
Collect with pious care each moldering
bone,

And grave its record on the eternal stone.
Meanwhile the proud oppressors' name
shall be

Sunk, with their crimes, to lasting
infamy—

To stern contempt and bitter scorn con-
signed

As foes to peace, to God and to mankind.

AN HISTORIC TOWN.

Athens, Pa., Aug. 27, 1895.—The historic town of Athens (Tioga Point) is one of the most beautiful in location in the State. The north branch of the Susquehanna and Chemung meet at the Point. A person on the main street can throw a stone in either river. Spurs of the Alleghenies rise on either side, clothed with green fields and dense woods. It is also one of the oldest towns in that section—a quarter century older than Elmira. John Arnot first made his home at Tioga Point (Athens). Unfortunately for the place, however, he subsequently located at Elmira, contributing to the prosperity of that place, his great wealth and business ability developing as germs of activity were added. His sons were worthy successors of an honored father.

This Point was a favorite resort of the Indians as history recorded it. Between the rivers the tribes met to make treaties with the pale faces and tribes from other camping grounds. The writer recollects his grandparents and parents speak of these meetings. Athens is among the growing prosperous towns of the State, more than doubling in population and wealth in the past ten years. The beautiful houses, large manufacturing establishments, with an agricultural business for miles around give it a stir and energy that imparts life like that in the city. The school building just erected is one of the finest in the State, costing upwards of \$70,000, while the church structures are second to none in all the given varied attraction and convenience in keeping with modern thought and skill. Within a few years, Mrs. Louise Murray and several other spirits of like sentiment and desire have organized an historical association, having purchased the old academy to use as a place for preserving relics and holding meetings, etc. It is surprising how many articles of interest they have gathered in so short a time, and each week adds new trophies. Men of wealth who left Ath-

ens for new homes and associations, helping generally toward the object, and others with articles of appropriate value seeking relics for the museum. Williamsport should bestir herself and establish an institution of like object and aims.

A half day was well spent in examining old records and relics. One of the most interesting relics was a large case containing the remains of an Indian, evidently, by the surroundings, a prominent character. The skeleton was all there, and around it were implements of war and other articles that were dear to the Indian life. One of the most impressive was a stone with excavations wherein was red paint and spoon. The color was deep red, and it was just as it was when the body was discovered. Those removing the remains placed sheets of iron under, taking up all the earth containing the relics just as they were when the tons of stone were removed. More than a thousand people gathered to witness the resurrection, and skilled men placed the whole in a strong box with glass cover, not moving a single article. It is worth, alone, a visit to the museum. The ground was evidently a burial place as upwards of thirty bodies have been taken up and many utensils.—(Letter in Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.)

WARNING FOR A PROPRIETORS' MEETING.

The original of the following call, or warning, for a meeting of the proprietors, is in the possession of the Wyoming Historical Society. The fort referred to was Fort Wyoming, which stood on the river bank, near Northampton street, across the street from the present residences of Judge Stanley Woodward or Charles Parrish. On the back is a tally list, probably the vote for the moderator of the meeting, of which "Capt. Butler" received 21 and "Capt. Gore" received 8:

These are to Warn all the Proprietors Belonging to ye Susquehanna Purchase to meet at ye Fort In wilkesbarre on wednesday ye 18th day of this Instant november (1772) at twelve a Clock on sd Day—

1st. to se what meathod is Best to come into for our Guarding & Scouting this winter Season.

2ly. to se what shall Be Done with those Persons that Complaint is made against their not Attending their Duty when called upon—

3ly. to appoint a collector to Receive in those Species that was signed by the Proprietors and Sellers for ye Suport of ye Revend Mr. Johnson, ye year Insuing—

4ly. to notify those Persons that Holds Rights and Have ye care of sd Rights to acquaint ye comtee forthwith who (managed?) sd Rights.

5ly. to se what this Company will Do further in Cutting & Clearing a Rode to Dellaware River &c:—

6ly. to act upon any other Business that Shall Be thought Proper to be Done Ralative to the settlement of sd Lands &c:—

Zebulon Butler
Ezekiel Pierce
Stephen Fuller

Committee.

N. B. as their is Some Business of Importance to be acted on at sd meeting it is Hopeful you will Give your attendance.

DESCENDANTS MEET IN REUNION.

The descendants of the late Ammi and Sarah Harrison met at the old homestead near Town Line Oct. 8, 1895, it being the 100th anniversary of the settlement of the place by William Harrison, one of the pioneers of Huntington Valley. The home coming was indeed an enjoyable one and many were the pleasant recollections recalled. After dinner a visit was made to the family cemetery where reminiscences of sadness for a time dispelled the joyousness of the otherwise happy gathering. The family is one of the most honored of the early settlers and the descendants, although scattered far and near, are recognized in their several communities as men and women of worth and character. Aside from a few neighbors the family was represented by the following:

Hazleton—Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Laubach, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Laubach, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Utt, Misses Lula and Edna Stevens, Vivian and Bartell Laubach and Master Charles Williams.

Buffalo—Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Barton.

Wilkes-Barre—Dr. and Mrs. N. E. Bowman, Mrs. C. A. Harrison, Miss Gertrude and Arthur Harrison.

Ashley—Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Harrison and son, Stanley.

Town Line—Mr. and Mrs. Nathan

Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. William Davenport, Mrs. J. W. Harrison, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Davenport, Ralph and Charles Harrison and Miss Lizzie Meeker.

MONUMENT OF THE 143D DEDICATED.

Oct. 15, 1895, at Gettysburg was dedicated the monument of the 143d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, on the site on Cemetery Ridge occupied by that famous regiment during the awful struggle.

Capt. De Lacy of Scranton presided, Rev. Asa Warner of Co. H offered prayer and E. A. Niven read a poem. The tablet was unveiled by Miss Edith Wynn Blair, daughter of Capt. Blair.

The oration of the day was by A. J. Colborn, Jr., of Scranton and his effort was an excellent one. Mr. Colborn spoke of the heroism that impelled men to forsake their homes and battle for their country and confined many of his remarks to the terrible ordeal experienced by the 143d and to the bravery of its members. Among other things he said:

"We are here to-day, with living witnesses, to mark the position of the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the grand final repulse; witnesses who have helped beat back the tidal wave of the rebellion. Histories of this great battle have been written, and more will have to be written ere the true story of this mighty struggle can be given to the world. Official reports written hastily, and while the smoke of battle was still hanging over Gettysburg, have been the chief source of information from which writers have gleaned the facts for 'history's golden urn.' Safer, and more reliable than all these reports, is the testimony of the men now living who participated in that awful contest, who bared their breasts to the enemy, and who fought side by side with death."

After the oration the formal transfer of the tablet to the commissioners of the Gettysburg Battlefield Association by Col. George N. Reichard of Wilkes-Barre was made.

In proportion the monument is much like that erected for Ricketts's battery. It is 5½ feet high and 6 feet by 4 at the base.

Col. George N. Reichard of Wilkes-Barre, chairman of the tablet committee presented a report of collections, etc., received: C. D. Kunkle, Dallas,

\$5; C. H. Sherman, Glenburn, \$4.40; George W. Engle, Luzerne, \$6; D. C. Graham, Tunkhannock, \$7; P. DeLacey, Scranton, \$11; M. B. Parigo, Burchersville, \$12; James T. Rennard, Plymouth, \$23; Rudolph Fenner, Pittston, \$46; J. M. Rutter, Wilkes-Barre, \$270; Capt. S. S. Simpson, Jeansville, \$14.50; total \$398.

Paid for tablet properly inscribed and placed at Gettysburg, by Miller & Laycock, \$312; other expenses, \$27; total, \$339; whole amount received to date, \$398.90; whole amount paid out to date, \$339; leaving a balance in hand of \$59.90.

Other members of the tablet committee are Capt. H. M. Gordon, Lieut. O. E. Vaughn, Capt. M. L. Blair and James M. Rutter.

THE MEMORIES OF '76.

Trenton, N. J., Oct. 15, 1895—The monument at Taylorsville, Pa., and the tablet at Washington's Crossing to mark the spot where the father of his country crossed the Delaware the night before he routed the Hessians in Trenton, were dedicated with interesting ceremonies to-day. The crossing is about two miles above this city, and at the present time the scene of a pretty village. Notwithstanding the air was raw and chilly, a large assemblage of people gathered, and school children from Pennington, Hopewell, Doylestown, Titusville and Washington's Crossing were present. The children all wore the national colors and participated in the exercises by singing patriotic songs. The monument at Taylorsville was erected by the Bucks County Historical Society. It is a block of gray granite, set upon a granite base and bearing the following inscription: "Near this spot Washington crossed the Delaware on Christmas night, 1776, the eve of the battle of Trenton."

The monument is about 100 yards above the Yardley bridge, and stands on the property of Dr. Griffe, between the river road and the Delaware.

The exercises took place in front of Dr. Griffe's residence. All about American flags were flying and patriotic music stirred the emotions of the spectators. Gen. William W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, Pa., president of the Bucks County Historical Society, made the introductory remarks, followed by Rev. Alphonzo Dare of Pennington. Gen. William Stryker of Trenton then delivered an historical address, after which the monument was unveiled by

Mrs. Elizabeth Twining of Yardley.

The orator of the day was Dwight M. Lowrey of Philadelphia, who spoke eloquently of the heroes of the Revolution and their work. Children in concert recited a song poem written by Miss Harcourt Clarke of New York, and then sang "America," the exercises on the Pennsylvania side of the river being brought to a close with the benediction pronounced by Rev. E. M. Jeffreys of Doylestown.

The tablet at the crossing was unveiled by Miss Ada Byron Nelson, daughter of Dr. Adonis Nelson, of Neshauc, N. J. It is of bronze, and bears this inscription: "This tablet is erected by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey to commemorate the crossing of the Delaware River by Gen. Washington and the Continental Army on Christmas night, 1776."

THE WYOMING VALLEY IN 1787.

The Record has seen an interesting though brief diary of a journey made from Philadelphia to Wilkes-Barre in 1787 and many of our older readers will be glad to see it in print. Though unsigned it has the internal evidence of having been written by the father of the late Judge John N. Conyngham, who was David Hayfield Conyngham. The latter was a Philadelphia merchant during the Revolutionary War, a member of the firm of Conyngham, Nesbitt & Co., who rendered substantial aid to Washington's suffering troops. At the time of this visit to Wilkes-Barre, whither he came to inspect certain lands claimed by him under Pennsylvania, he was 31 years old.

It is curious to note that the journey, which occupied him four days, we can now take in as many hours.

That first impressions are not always the best is shown by the diary. We of to-day cannot agree that Wilkes-Barre is either badly situated or "on poor soil."

In the little book are numerous entries intended as reminders of one kind or another of the Philadelphia business. For example:

Took from J. N.'s Money 7 crowns & 11d. Put in a ½ Joe.

Wrote N. & W. Johnson of Bordeaux introducing Stephen Higginson. Dated Phil'a May 3, signed C. N. & Co.

Fitzgerald has a brig called the Betsey of 1660 bbls., agreed to load her at 35s per bbl.

R. H. & Co. have on hand 5,000 bush'ls; if they can secure a Vessel & fill her immediately with wheat agreed to take first cargo at 6s 8d on board, to hear from at Balt'e.

Directed W. H. if he saw an opening to strike for wheat & flour provided the price does not exceed 26s per bbl.

Mr. Deakins offered bills on London for 300 stg.

Rec'd of Franklin & co.,

in specie	51	18	0
paper	34	10	0
	£86	8	0

The Diary.

Left Phil'a July 8, 1787, with Mr. Meredith. Arrived on the 10th at Bethlehem. Breakfasted next morn'n at Nazareth & went on.

7 miles to Hellar's Gap. (Note 1)

16 do. to Learn's, slept there. (Note 2)

12 to Tobyhanna.

6 to Lehi. (Note 3)

12 to Kelly's, slept there. (Note 4)

7 to Wioming. Put up at John Hol-lowbank's. (Note 5)

Latitude of Wyoming 41 14 40, 78 W. (Note 6)

Distance from Phil'a 123 miles. (It is 144 by L. V. R. R.)

Observations—The river remarkably beautiful; the town of Wilkes-barre badly situated, on a poor soil. Shawnee flats (Plymouth) appear the most fertile of all of them, badly cultivated. Jacob's plains (Plains) are well diversified and think the back land valuable. Nanticoke pleases me most and the settlers there appear better advanced than any others. Abram's plains (Wyoming) lay well & the crops on them are as good as any I see. The whole appears to be claimed by the Yankees (Note 7) & there are many turn coats now ready to come forward with claims; how they will support them I know not. J. P. Schott is a bad man. (Note 8) The road up to Lackawanna on the west side is a remarkable good one; the country there seems rude but am informed the land is pretty good & gets good as you go up the headwaters of it & Tunkhannock.

Col. Pickering (Note 9) came in on Tuesday, the 17th, the other commissioners (Note 6) not coming made the settlers uneasy. Franklin (Note 10) on the 18th had a meet'g at which we were told he distributed fresh grants of land; unless somewhat spirited is done he will keep the settlement always in trouble.

Saw Marssy whose land was taken from him by the half-right men as they

are stiled. heard of several acts of violence of theirs;

Lotts in town sell for £40 to 50 d'rs; Meadow Lotts at £3 per acre; whole lotts at 200 to £275 per lott of 300 acres.

Doct. Sprag (Note 11) very communicative—not much to be depended on.

Marssy informs me the claims only touch about 100 acres of our lands up Tunckhannock. Sprag claims a lease of one of them from a promise of C. Stewart's.

Caught 4 doz'n trout up Laurel Run.

A rough country—Yankee claims do not reach Nescopeck. The whole settlement has the appearance of Poverty & was it not for the near approach of harvest many must suffer. Bread scarce, obliged to feed our horses new Rye at 5s. per bushel.

* * *

All the matter within the parentheses is inserted by the annotator.

* * *

Note 1—Heller's tavern (present Hellersville, Monroe Co.) at the southern opening of the Wind Gap, a beautiful pass in the Blue Ridge, 53 miles from Wilkes-Barre.

* * *

Note 2—Learn's log tavern, n. w. of Stroudsburg, 28 m. from Easton. On the 3d of July, 1781, Mr. Learn and his son George were killed and scalped by the Indians, who carried off his wife and her 4-months-old infant. Not wishing to be encumbered with the baby they dashed out its brains. Mr. Learn's son John had meanwhile escaped after killing one of the Indians.

* * *

Note 3—Falls of the Lehigh, present Stoddartsville, 19 miles from Wilkes-Barre.

* * *

Note 4—Present Searfoss's, or known formerly as Seven-Mile-Jake's. This was the first house after leaving Wilkes-Barre for Easton and at the time of the Wyoming Massacre was occupied by a family named Bullock. It was the first place the fugitives could find refreshment. The Bullocks had fled, however, and they probably never returned. When Sullivan's army reached here it was met by Col. Zebulon Butler and his troops who had built a road from Wyoming as far as Bullock's and together they marched into the valley.

* * *

Note 5—John Hollenback is meant, a younger brother of Matthias Hollenback, whose name is so prominently

identified with the development of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

* * *

Note 6—In the Historical Record, vol. 1, p. 121, is a contribution by the late Steuben Jenkins, in which he quotes these figures of Mr. Conyngham. It speaks well for the accuracy of whoever made the observation, that it varies only four-tenths of a second from the observation made in recent years by the geological survey with its far superior instruments. Some earlier observations are given by Mr. Jenkins, one in 1755 being 41, 14, 17, and another in 1770 being 41, 14, 27.

* * *

The Pennamite War.

Note 7—This year 1787 was a tumultuous one in Wyoming. The valley was torn with the dissensions incident to the disputed jurisdiction of Pennsylvania and Connecticut. The Decree of Trenton had given the jurisdiction to Pennsylvania and in 1786 Luzerne County had been erected. But peace was not yet. The Connecticut settlers were divided. One wing was willing to submit to Pennsylvania jurisdiction without a guarantee, the other had no confidence in Pennsylvania promises, so often had they been broken. Among the families willing to trust to the honor of Pennsylvania for a continuation of their land titles were those of Butler, Denison, Hollenback, Ross, Gore, Carey and Nesbitt. Among the opposition were the Franklin, Jenkins, Slocum, Satterlie and Dudley families. The first election of Luzerne County was held in February, 1787, the Col. John Franklin party bitterly opposing it. A month after this exciting election the Assembly of Pennsylvania endeavored to conciliate the "Wild Yankees," as the Connecticut claimants were dubbed, by passing a Confirming Law, under which rightful Connecticut claimants were to have their titles confirmed. This law provided that Timothy Pickering, Joseph Montgomery and Peter Muhlenburg were appointed commissioners to sit at Wilkes-Barre and pass upon all claims. By agreement of both factions a public meeting was held at Forty Fort to discuss the recent confirming law, but so bitter were the contentions that it almost broke up in a row, though a vote was finally taken to accept the law. This was the situation at the moment of Mr. Conyngham's visit. The commissioners appointed under the law entered upon their duties but being

threatened with violence they adjourned in August after a brief session. This confirming law would have forever settled the controversy, but through the jobbery of land speculators in Philadelphia the beneficent measure was repealed and the Commonwealth had broken faith with the suffering Connecticut settlers. For a dozen years longer the Assemblies labored with the Wyoming question and it was not until 1799 that the settlers were finally quieted in their titles. Thus had Wyoming Valley been scourged for 30 years with an internecine strife, which nothing short of the Revolutionary War was strong enough to interrupt.

* * *

Capt. John Paul Schott.

Note 8—It would be interesting to know what prompted this criticism. Probably it was Schott's hostility to the Pennsylvania title. John Paul Schott was a Prussian who had served in the army of his native land and who upon offering his services to Congress had been commissioned as captain. Among the troops stationed at Wyoming during the Revolution was Capt. Schott's rifle corps and in 1780 he was married to Miss Naomi Sill, the occasion being one of great joy in the settlement. He lived in a little red house on River street above South, about where E. H. Chase's residence is.

* * *

Timothy Pickering.

Note 9—Pickering was at this time 42 years of age. He was an officer in Washington's army and at the organization of Luzerne County he was a veritable Pooh-Bah, he being elected to nearly all the county offices simultaneously. He became Postmaster-General under Washington in 1791, was Secretary of War and Secretary of State in 1795 under Washington, as well as Secretary of State under Adams in 1797. He was a most remarkable personage. While living in Wilkes-Barre he owned the McCarragher farm, corner of present Hazle and Park avenues, and Sidney Tracy, afterwards of the firm of Sinton & Tracy, used to say that he built many a rod of rail fence for Mr. Pickering.

* * *

Franklin and His Bloody Oath.

Note 10—Capt. John Franklin was one of the most prominent of all the opponents of the Pennsylvania government. It was he who in October, 1874, when attacked by a Pennsylvania party, swore

on the bloody rifle of a companion who had been shot, "that he would never lay down his arms until death should arrest his hand, or Patterson and Armstrong be expelled from Wyoming and the people be restored to their rights of possession and a legal title guaranteed to every citizen."

At the time of this first election in 1787 he was especially opposed to it. He visited all the settlements and urged the people not to commit themselves either by voting or taking the oath of allegiance until they should first be quieted in their titles. He boomed the Connecticut title to the utmost and succeeded in making a good deal of trouble for the Commonwealth. So much so that Timothy Pickering engineered a movement by which he was kidnapped (in front of the present Ross house) on South Main street and he was kept in jail at Philadelphia nearly two years. During this time his adherents retaliated by capturing Pickering and running him up into the forests of Wyoming County.

* * *

Note 11—Dr. Joseph Sprague, the first physician in the settlement. An interesting account of him is given in Historical Record, vol. 3, p. 165.

* * *

The old diary is in the possession of C. E. Butler of this city, who has many other interesting manuscripts of early days.

F. C. J.

DESCENDANTS OF BLACKLEACH BURRITT.

A prominent pioneer in Hanover Twp., Luzerne Co., was Blackleach Burritt and a full account of him and of his family is given in a paper read by M. D. Raymond of Tarrytown, N. Y., before the Fairfield County (Conn.) Historical Society, the same appearing in their published proceedings. Burritt, (whose father bore the same name and was a distinguished patriot preacher in Connecticut) was away from Hanover at the time of the massacre but his wife was here and was among the fugitives. His son-in-law, Cyprian Hibbard, was killed. The latter's widow, Sarah, married Matthias Hollenback, who was in the battle but escaped. Her daughter by her first marriage, Hannah D. Hibbard, was only 15 days old at the time of the massacre. She became the wife of John Alexander, grandfather of the Misses Emily and Carrie Alexander of

this city. Hannah Hibbard Hollenback by her second marriage had:

1. Mary Ann Hollenback, married Laning; three sons and three daughters.

2. Ellen J. Hollenback, born 1788, m. Charles F. Welles, father of Rev. H. H. Welles, Edward Welles and John Welles Hollenback.

3. Sarah, m. 1st Jacob Cist, 2d Chester Butler.

4. George M. Hollenback, b. 1791, d. 1866.

HISTORY OF OLD TIME FOLKS.

Daniel K. Cassel of Germantown, Philadelphia, has just published a comprehensive family history, which will interest many members living in this section of the State. The title is: "The Kulp Family History," being "a genealogical history of the Kolb, Kulp and Culp family and its branches in America with biographical sketches of their descendants from the earliest available records from 1707 to the present time, including Dielman Kolb in Germany." This is a handsome book of 584 pages, just from the press. The history includes descendants of Martin, Jacob Henry, Johannes and Dielman Kolb, who came to America and settled at Germantown in 1707 (with the exception of Dielman, who came in 1717) afterwards moved to Skippack, in 1709, and were among the first Mennonite preachers in Skippack. Out of a family of six brothers, four were Mennonite ministers. The name of Martin Kolb appears on the deed of the Germantown Mennonite Meeting House lot, as a witness, with that of Dirk Keyser, and the names of many of the Kolbs appear on the list of members of the congregation, and many are buried there.

The Kolbs came from Palatinate (Pfaltz) in Germany, from the vicinity of Mannheim and Wolfsheim, where their father, Dielman Kolb, and his wife, daughter of Peter Schumacher, are buried; also a brother, Peter, and a sister, Ann. The other five brothers came to America.

The Kolbs were early and conspicuous in the ministry of the Mennonite Church. They were devout followers of the teachings of Menno Simons, who was born in the village called Witmarsum, in Friesland, in the year 1492, and died in the year 1559, on the 13th of January. Dielman Kolb the younger brother, was also a well educated man and a Mennonite minister. After emi-

grating to America he, in connection with Rev. Henry Funk, supervised the translation of Van Braght's "Martyr's Mirror" from the Dutch to the German, and certified to its correctness.

This book is the great historical work of the Mennonites and the most durable monument of that denomination, in tracing the history of those zealous Christians back among primitive churches. No German translation existed, and the larger portion of those here who were interested in it could read only that language. It was not long, however, before a desire for a German edition was manifested. Consequently on the 19th of October, 1745, a letter on the subject was sent to Amsterdam asking for aid, signed by Jacob Godshall, Dielman Kolb, Michael Ziegler, Yelles Kassel, Martin Kolb and Henry Funk.

The Kolbs took a leading move in this undertaking. As no aid was promised from Amsterdam, and Dielman Kolb was well-to-do, the work was taken up in the community by unanimous consent. They found a competent translator and procured a hand printing press (in 1745), which is now in the Pennsylvania Historical Society; the work was commenced, the paper made, and the printing started. Heinrich Funk and Dielman Kolb had such a great love for this work that they both, with common consent, gave their time and labor to it. As the sheets came from the press they went over them one at a time, comparing them with the Dutch, and in this work have not omitted a single verse. The first part was completed in 1748 and the second part in 1749, the whole containing over 1,500 pages, and took fifteen men three years to finish it.

It is the record and history of these Kulp's that Daniel K. Cassel, who is a descendant of Martin Kolb, has endeavored to prepare, and, through his historical researches, he has rescued many important facts connected with the said family and with Philadelphia's early settlement. It also embraces many prominent men in the Kulp family and their descendants.

Mr. Cassel in his introduction, speaking of the Kulp family, says: "It graces every walk in life. It is represented in every profession. It has won high favors among men. It has made its mark in business, in the school room, in journalism, in medicine, at the bar, in the army, on the platform and in the pulpit."

The work contains portraits of the following members of the family: Nicholas Rittenhouse, Sr., Mrs. Mary Smith, Daniel K. Cassel, the author; Samuel K. Cassel, Dr. Jacob K. Cassel, Samuel N. Kulp, Nicholas M. Rittenhouse, Jr., Horace F. McCann, publisher of the Germantown Independent; A. H. Fetterolf, president of Girard College; George B. Kulp of this city, Dr. Henry Geiger, Rev. Moses Godshall, Rev. William S. Godshall, Rev. N. B. Grubb.

The price of the book is \$2, bound in cloth; 20 cents additional if it be mailed or expressed. The issue is limited, the greatest portion of which is already ordered.

WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

No. 2.

"The Wyoming Valley."

(Which were written for the Scranton Republican in January, 1894.)

The author of the following lines was led into this chain of thought from the idea he had formed after a close inspection of the locality where the Susquehanna and the Lackawanna rivers meet near Pittston. The writer is of the opinion that the Lackawanna is the older river of the two, and that its original course was straight on by the northern side of the mountain range which now forms the northern boundary of the Wyoming Valley, and that the waters of Otsego Lake and of all its tributary basins were let out by a break or upheaval of volcanic origin at the above mentioned place, of which Campbell's Ledge shows abundant evidence.

And further that the mighty rush of this great body of water, the Susquehanna, striking those of the Lackawanna at right angles to that of its original course, carried them with it to and around the base of the southern hills, and thus the original river bed of the Lackawanna became a lake or broad sheet of water which in time becoming filled up with the rich deposits of fine silt and mould, aided by the washings from the mountain sides, at last became the famous Wyoming Valley.

* * *

Far back in dim and distant ages,
So speak the sachems and the sages
Ere the ancient Lackawanna's margin
When this world was young and virgin.
A noble stream was the Lackawanna
Long before the Susquehanna
Had joined its placid water,
Flowing on in rippling laughter
Like a maiden coy and fleeting,
Now advancing, now retreating,
As she plies her witching art
To snare admiring suitor's heart.
Now ruffled, foaming, fretting,
Now eddying, swirling, or coquetting,

Dancing sunbeams on her bosom,
Glancing silvery rays of Moosom
From her clear and limpid stream
Like a visioned fairy dream.

Such was life with Lackawanna
When first beheld by Aqualana,
Aqualana, spirit of the water,
Who claimed her as her first-born daughter.

Hark! to my voice thou gentle maiden
Spake the spirit with wisdom laden;
Thou hast a brother, gentle river,
'Tis thine the gift and I the giver,
A brother born amidst the snows
Of Arctic north—where fox and crows
Turn white with frost, feathers and fur,
Where also grows the Juniper.
Born in broad Lake Otsego,
Lake of fishes and wildgana,
I will bring him to thy side
And thou shalt be his virgin bride;
I will cause the god of thunder
To rend the hills and break asunder
The mountain ribs of Allegana,
To have them join the Lackawanna.
No sooner said than it is done,
The darkening clouds obscured the sun,
The earth by Thou was made to quake
The mountain ribs of stone did break
And through the gap at Campbellana
Came rushing forth the Susquehanna
To meet his bride the Lackawanna,
The marriage blessed by Aqualana,
And when the nuptial rites are ended
In peaceful flow their lives are blended,
Bringing riches from afar
Where gazes down the polar star.
And from the East where rising sun
Had blessed them in each brook or run.
The finest silt, the richest soil
They hold in store as on they toil,
Depositing in finest mould,
More rich than all the mines of gold,
And laid them peacefully at rest
Beneath the flowing river's breast.
Deep down below with patient care
They lay their treasures, layer on layer,
Like corals of the ocean deep
They slowly rise and upward creep,
'Till lo! a vision like a dream
Up to the surface of the stream
Enchanted lands now rise in view
From out the depths of waters blue.
An Eden of the Central West
With all the good of life and blest,
A land of trees and blooming flowers,
Of fairy dells and shady bowers,
Where birds of melody and song
Sang their praises all day long,
A paradise, a heavenly home,
That from the skies had seemed to come.

Ten thousand moons had come and gone
Ere Aqualana did return
To view the land that had been born,
The fairest land beneath the sun.
With queenly grace stood Aqualana
And looked with pride on Susquehanna
And smiled on daughter Lackawanna,
Then viewed with wonder and surprise
This goodly land, this Paradise.

What shall we call this new born land?
The parents asked in accents bland;
The spirit mused from morn till gloaming

Then uttering this one word—Wyoming
 Slowly upward to the skies
 On spirit wings was seen to rise,
 And as she floats in upper air
 Her voice re-echoes faint, but clear—
 This fills my joy—this ends my roaming,
 I've seen the paradise of earth—Wyoming!
 Wyoming!

William Noble.

RIVER STEAMBOATS OF 1826.

Editor Record: I was much interested, for reasons apparent further on, in the Historical Column of your issue of Sept. 6, 1895, under above title, and seeking for further information referred to Dr. Egle's history of Pennsylvania (Harrisburg, 1877) and found under title "Columbia County, Berwick," as follows: "It was at Berwick May 3, 1826, that the steamboat Susquehanna, Captain Collins, of Baltimore blew up, ascending Nescopeck Falls."

Now, whatever the name of the boat or the time of the explosion, my father, Asa L. Foster, then a resident of Bloomsburg, was on board, blown into the river and narrowly escaped with his life. I have heard him relate the incident frequently and the "Codorus" has always been associated in my mind as the name of the boat. Is it possible that there were two boats experimenting at the same time for steam navigation of the Susquehanna?

I remember that in my boyhood the word "Codorusd" was locally in use to convey the idea of a breakup or failure and I associated that also with the explosion of the boiler of the Codorus. Those having access to the files of the local newspapers of 1826 and 1827 may be able to settle the question whether it was the Codorus or some other boat which "blew up."

If it was the Codorus the several paragraphs which you published can all be reconciled with the exception of the date and name given in Dr. Egle's history as follows:

The Codorus finished and tried Nov. 22, 1825, when it was found to work satisfactorily and that "with 40 persons on board her draft is not more than eight inches."

Dec. 3, 1825, the boat is at Harrisburg.

April 12, 1826, it is at Wilkes-Barre. Received ovation; dinner at Porter's; toasts, speeches, etc.; here to remain until Monday, and then as Ed. of the "Democrat" is informed, expects to proceed up the river.

This part of the program seems to have been changed, for May 8, 1826, the boat is at Bloomsburg and received another ovation, toasts, speeches, etc., but in latter part of June, 1826, it is at Oswego, Binghamton and Tioga.

July 25, 1826, it is back to Lock Haven.

As during the time of low water in summer it was probably thought impracticable to navigate the Susquehanna northward it is possible that the boat went down the river and to Baltimore, as stated in the extract from the Baltimore paper of April, 1830, but instead of going further South returned, as in April, 1827, a "Stockholder" writes to the York Gazette suggesting that if it cannot be used for the purpose it was intended, it had better be towed down to tide water, "where perhaps it might be applied to some useful purpose."

This communication may have led to another effort to ascend the river and if it was the Codorus that blew up at Nescopeck Falls it must have been in the spring of 1827, probably May 3, 1827, instead of as stated with reference to the steamer Susquehanna May 3, 1826.

Something more than ordinary wear and tear had happened to the Codorus, as Mr. D. K. Noel says he saw the ruins in 1831 lying on the bank of the river at York Haven "the hull in good condition but the woodwork torn away."

Hoping we shall hear something definite from old residents of Columbia County or others, I remain

Very respectfully,

T. L. Foster.

Mauch Chunk, Pa., Sept. 9, 1895.

ANSWER TO MR. FOSTER.

By reference to the Historical Record, vol. 1, p. 215, Mr. Foster and any others interested will find the matter fully treated. The steamer which burst its boiler May 3, 1826, was the "Susquehanna," as correctly stated by Dr. Egle. A pretty full account of the fatal trip is given at the place referred to. The ill-fated craft left York Haven April 27, 1826, having in tow a large keel boat capable of carrying a thousand bushels of wheat. She arrived at Nescopeck May 3, and while trying to ascend the rapids the explosion occurred. Two were killed outright and at least two fatally hurt. Asa L. Foster, mentioned above, was among those slightly injured.

The files of the papers for 1826 show that in the spring of that year both the Codorus and the Susquehanna were attempting to navigate our river and both attempts resulted in failure.

GENEALOGICAL JEWELS.

[Daily Record, Oct. 29, 1895.]

Mrs. Helen Boyd Headley of Morristown, N. J., is visiting Wilkes-Barre relatives and friends after an absence of twenty years. Mrs. Headley is the possessor of some unique jewelry that not only possesses a considerable intrinsic money value made up as it is of gold and diamonds, but is of rare historic interest. Mrs. Headley traces her lineage from the Mayflower Aldens and the jewelry is all associated with the history of the family. It was designed by Mrs. Headley, and comprises locket, earrings, sleeve buttons, stickpins, etc., all resplendent with diamonds. The first is a locket, dependent from a true-lover's-knot engraved with the names of John and Priscilla, the Alden progenitors, dated Plymouth Rock, 1620. On the obverse is the Mayflower with arbutus blossoms, the first flowers that greeted the pilgrims, with the names of the descendants down to the present. Thirteen stars set in diamonds border the locket, representing the years of the pilgrimage. The center is made up of a piece of Plymouth Rock, polished.

A brooch tells the story of Major John Mason and his extermination of the Pequot Indians in 1637, to save Hartford from destruction. Mary Mason wedded Prince Alden, the great-grandson of John the Pilgrim and they found a home in Wyoming Valley. Other Puritan ancestors of hers are given—Thomas and James Fitch, Thomas and Matthew Sherwood and John and Abram Thomas; also the names of Scotch-Irish ancestors, the Jamesons, represented by eleven diamonds.

The reverse of the locket shows the revolutionary period. Two golden obelisks are shown, one commemorating Wyoming massacre, the other Stony Point, with the eagle of the Cincinnati between.

John Jameson was one of the Wyoming emigrants in 1769. His wife was Abigail Alden. He served in the Revolution under Washington and was slain by the Indians near Wilkes-Barre in 1782. He was the last Indian victim in

Wyoming Valley. Stewart Pearce's painting of this savage atrocity can be seen in the Historical Society rooms.

Lazarus Stewart was a brave soldier in the French and Indian wars and fell at Wyoming in 1778.

A third ancestor given is John Boyd, a revolutionary officer.

John Bull, revolutionary officer.

Samuel Headley, surgeon in Revolution.

The fourth set of jewelry represents the Centennial and the Columbian exposition, three golden bells with diamond clappers, modeled after the famous liberty bell.

Mrs. Headley is an industrious student of American history and has a right to feel proud of the valuable articles that so beautifully perpetuate the deeds of her ancestors.

[Daily Record, Nov. 2, 1895.]

Mrs. Helen Boyd Headley, of Morristown, N. J., whose genealogical jewelry was described in the Record, met with the Daughters of the American Revolution this week and made a pleasant address on topics which the jewels suggested. Mrs. Headley is a sister of Mrs. Washington Lee.

OLDEST CHURCH IN BERKS CO.

Stroudsburg, Oct. 28, 1895.—The corner-stone for the new Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church, at the eastern end of this village, was laid yesterday with appropriate services. The congregation is with absolute certainty the oldest in Berks County, and it disputes the palm with New Hanover, Montgomery County, Germantown, and another in the State of New York, as being the oldest Lutheran Church in the United States.

There was an organized congregation here as early as 1727, if not earlier. It is to be regretted that there is not more definite information in regard to the first church, which was erected in 1727. A second church was built in 1744, which remained standing for ninety-three years, when the present stone edifice was erected on the site in 1837. This will hereafter be used as a chapel.

The new church will have a frontage of 100 feet. The main building will be seventy-three by forty-two feet. Communion services were held yesterday morning in the old church.

AFORGOTTEN BURYING GROUND.

It used to be a saying of Henry Ward Beecher, in alluding to the transitoriness of mundane things, that in a few years even the grave yards, in which we are buried, will be forgotten. It is not often that this is literally true, although many grave yards with which we are familiar have given way to the demands of business. Yet there is a grave yard which our pioneer fathers began in the troublous times of 1778, which has entirely passed from even the memory of any except the oldest. A sketch of it is furnished the Record by Samuel R. Smith, and it is as follows:

HUNTING FOR A GRAVE YARD.

The following story of one of the oldest grave yards in the valley was given to me by Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett Polen of Wyoming, daughter of Andrew Bennett and granddaughter of Thomas Bennett, who was the boy who was captured with Hammond by the Indians. The story of how they untied themselves at night and brained the sleeping Indians is the delight of the old and young alike.

Mrs. Polen is 84 years old, well preserved and possesses those splendid mental and physical traits and strength of character that distinguished the old stock, now rapidly disappearing.

The story is as follows: After the massacre and before the little band of fugitives started on that sad flight back to New England, a little party went and hunted up the bodies of near relatives and carried them to a spot which is located next to Laycock's hotel and buried them. The little plot contained about one-eighth of an acre and the road now running back to the mountain runs over part of it, as the road formerly was but a narrow lane. The corner lot below the hotel is over what the street does not cover.

After the settlers came back they used this plot for the burying ground for the families in that section and it was called the Eomig (pronounced Emmig) burying ground. It was used until about 1800, when Thomas Bennett gave a plot at Forty Fort for the Forty Fort grave yard. After this time the little plot at Wyoming was unused and uncared for. It grew up with briars and the few old, rudely-carved head stones became lost to sight in the vegetation, while the sunken graves became pools. The plot never had a fence and was

regarded as a common. It has been in the possession of Jesse B. Schooley since about 1850 and he claims title by having occupied it twenty-one years. Most of the dead were never removed and few people, as they pass over this spot, know that they are walking over graves where our forefathers sleep, forgotten in forgotten graves. None of the histories record the fact.

Mrs. Polen showed me an old tin lantern that Thomas Bennett carried in the early days, and a pewter platter that was buried with the dishes in the fort in a chest belonging to Thomas Bennett that was hid in the sand along the river until the settlers returned. The chest is now in the possession of William Myers and should be given to the Historical Society. It has on it the letters T. B., the initials of its owner.

I give this story as it was given to me, without comments. Thomas Bennett owned six hundred acres of land, reaching from the mountain to the river, extending from Tuttle's Creek to what is now Vaughn's Corner.

The descendants of the old stock of Bennetts, who were Thomas and Ishmael, who came here from New England, are numerous. Ishmael was my great-great-grandfather, and Thomas was the same relation to the present generation of the Myers family, though this has nothing to do with the grave yard.

HISTORIC HOTEL BURNED.

Phoenixville, Oct. 21, 1895.—The old Seven Stars tavern in East Vincent Township, about six miles west of this place, with the stables, was burned this evening. The Seven Stars tavern was built long before the Revolution, and it was a famous stopping place for travelers going from Philadelphia to Baltimore. Washington and his generals often stopped at the Seven Stars. Near by is a monument that marks the graves of many soldiers of the Revolution, who died in the old Pike Island Church when it was used as a hospital.

SEVERAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES.

A recent important event at Utica, N. Y., was the laying of a corner stone for a building for the Oneida County Historical Society. It is the splendid gift of Mrs. Helen Munson Williams, whose husband was one of the founders of the society, nineteen years ago. The society is fortunate not only in coming

into possession of a fine permanent home, but in having as its leading spirit such an enthusiastic historian as Gen. Charles W. Darling, its corresponding secretary.

That people are interested in their local historical societies is shown by the fact that a few weeks ago the Bucks County Historical Society held a meeting which was attended by at least a thousand persons. The exercises were held on the top of Buckingham Mountain, the assemblage being the guests of Col. Henry D. Paxson, who had made elaborate preparations for the event. Several interesting papers on historical subjects were read.

Gen. C. W. Darling, corresponding secretary of the Oneida Historical Society, has sent a parchment in Hebrew found in the tomb of Absalom, a monolith cut in the solid rock, and yet standing in the valley of Jehosaphat. This parchment scroll contains the book of Esther, in Hebrew, without the points, and the scroll bears evidence of extreme age. The characters are perfect and written evidently with great care as well as skill, and the ends of the cylinder upon which the scroll is rolled are turned apparently by a lathe. The lathe was known in early times, and its invention has been ascribed to Theodore of Samos, 740 B. C.

VALUABLE HISTORICAL PUBLICATION.

The American Historical Register (the organ of the patriotic-hereditary societies), for October, has an attractive table of contents. A local feature that has been running through several numbers is a series of articles by Mrs. Mary Jenkins Richart (whose husband formerly published the *Pittston Gazette*) her subject being the traditions of Jenkins Fort, which of course gives her opportunity to weave in a good deal of Wyoming Valley history.

The historic tour of Lafayette through the United States in 1824 is continued. This number tells, with scores of appropriate illustrations, of his trip up the Hudson, and visits to West Point, Newburg, Albany, Troy, etc. Maj. J. G. Rosengarten gives much that is new about Gen. Comte de Rochambeau, illustrating his entertaining article with numerous portraits. Some of the monthly returns of the adjutant of the 1st Regiment Pennsylvania Line, 1782, are printed for the first time and show much information

that is curious. An interesting sketch of Gen. Adair, a poem by H. H. Harrison, and many pages of news of the patriotic societies make up this very readable number, the frontispiece of which is the insignia of the Society of the Cincinnati, done in proper colors and embossed. The Register is published at 120 South 6th street, Phila.

DEATH OF MRS. H. B. HILLMAN.

[Daily Record, Jan. 6, 1896.]

Mrs. Josephine Hillman, the beloved wife of H. Baker Hillman of 81 South Franklin street, died at 11:30 last night. On Dec. 14 she suffered a stroke of apoplexy, and was making a good recovery when a second attack yesterday morning rendered her unconscious, and she passed away in that condition. The news of Mrs. Hillman's death will be received with genuine sorrow. She was a woman of many virtues, and since she came to this city had gathered about her a circle of warm friends, who loved her for her genuine worth, and esteemed her for the many acts of Christian charity with which she brightened the lives of others. She leaves to mourn her a husband and two sons, Fred and George, and a sister, Cornelia E. Hillman, who resided with her. Another son, the eldest, Harry, died in 1886 at the age of 20. He was a particularly bright and promising young man, and his death was a crushing blow to his parents. He was a student at the Wilkes-Barre Academy at the time, and in order to perpetuate his memory his father endowed the Harry Hillman Academy perpetually.

Mrs. Hillman was 59 years of age. Her maiden name was Josephine A. Hillman, daughter of Joseph Hillman, of Nazareth, Pa., and later of Easton, where he served as sheriff of Northampton County. On Feb. 19, 1862, she was married to H. Baker Hillman, and the union was one of the happiest. Mr. Hillman is one of the most prominent citizens of Luzerne County. He was born at Mauch Chunk, April 24, 1834, and has been engaged in the coal business since reaching manhood. He is also president of the Harry Hillman Academy, a director of the People's Bank; secretary and director of the Vulcan Iron Works; vice president and director of the Glen Summit Hotel Co., and a director of the Electric Light Co. In 1871 he was a councilman in this city.

The thirty-four years of married life of Mr. and Mrs. Hillman have been

marked by the serenest conjugal affection. The death of the mother darkens the home to-day. She has gone to her beloved son, and the tears that fall unbidden from the eyes of the husband and children lose much of their bitterness when they realize that she is with that son for whom her mother-heart ached during the long years. And the friends as they gather about to look their last upon the sleeping form may well say that a woman lies dead before them whose life work has made the world better and whose passing leaves vacant a place which cannot easily be filled.

A PECULIAR FIND.

[Hazleton Sentinel, Dec. 5, 1895.]

Much interest was excited among the residents of East Diamond avenue by a discovery which Daniel Gallagher and Michael Ward made. While the pupils attending No. 3 school were leaving for home, Ward, who was coming from the direction of the breaker, noticed one of the children stumble in the field. Upon reaching the place he saw that there was a hole of peculiar shape. Gallagher, who was with him, came up by this time and together they began to dig. A wooden box two feet square was encountered. The top had rotted away and the earth fell into the space, the boy's foot caused a small cave. The young men were deeply interested in the find and laid bare the entire box. Upon examining the inside of it they found a small tin box six inches square. The lid was easily cut away, and the sight which met the gaze of the young men greatly astonished them. On a bed of down, a pair of earrings, a finger ring, a locket, and a child's shoe. The box and the contents were given to the teacher, John O'Donnell, who now has them in his possession. The rumor of the find soon circulated and many are the explanations which are being heard.

DEATH OF GEORGE A. PEHLE.

Few men in Luzerne County were better known than George A. Pehle, who died Oct. 16, 1895, at his home in Warrior Run of typhoid fever.

He was born in Wilkes-Barre, and by industry and ambition raised himself to considerable prominence. Mr. Pehle was once a bootblack and newsboy in this city. Later he entered the store of Peacock & Lafferty, where he entered the drug business. He has been a resident of Warrior Run for over twenty

years, where he has been engaged in the mercantile and drug business. He was the first postmaster in that place, being appointed by President Grant. The postoffice is named after him. He was the first charter member of Rhys Lodge 5, Independent Order of Good Templars, urer, as well as having passed through the other chairs. He was a deacon of Nanticoke Presbyterian Church for several years, walking twice every Sunday from Warrior Run. Since his marriage he has embraced the Baptist faith. He has been the superintendent of the Union Sunday School for the past fifteen years. He leaves a wife and one daughter, Deborah. His two sisters, for whom he has always cared, also survive.

In the Prohibition party Mr. Pehle was looked upon as one of its most prominent members in this section, and was frequently honored with the nomination for important offices. In church work he labored zealously, and did more than any other man for the up building of the Baptist Church in Warrior Run. His characteristics were such as commended him to the good will and esteem of his fellow men, and the memory he leaves is one that will be cherished.

DEATH OF WILLIAM SLOCUM.

On Saturday, Oct. 19, 1895, at his home in Exeter Borough, occurred the death of William Slocum, aged 66 years, of heart disease, one of the best known men in this section of the county. Mr. Slocum followed the occupation of market gardener and was about his work when taken ill.

Mr. Slocum was born in the old Slocum homestead at Exeter, Jan. 9, 1829, and was 66 years of age. He was a son of Layton and Grateful Slocum. He studied at Wyoming Seminary, kept a store in Pittston for a short time and in 1851 went to California, attracted there by the gold excitement. In 1854 he returned East and was employed for five years in Fuller's drug store at Scranton and in 1864 was an officer in the recruiting service at that place. He married Mary, daughter of Abel Hoyt of Osceola, N. Y., and they have lived in Exeter for many years. He was a member of Dr. Parke's church in West Pittston. His grandfather was the second sheriff of Luzerne county when it included the territory comprised in several counties now adjoining. His widow and one son, W. G. Slocum, survive, also a brother, Senator James Slocum, and sister, Mrs. Frances Oakford.

DEATH OF ANDREW JACKSON RASMUS.

Andrew Jackson Rasmus, aged 51 years, died at his home in Ashley at 2 o'clock on the morning of Oct. 21, 1895, after an illness of ten months of cancer of the face. The remains were taken to Dorrance Corners, where interment was made.

He was born June 1, 1844, in Columbia County, and for the past twenty-four years has resided in Ashley. In his early days he was driver in the employ of the government. He enlisted in a regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers Feb. 20, 1865, receiving his discharge Aug. 17 of the same year at Lucyville, Kentucky.

INDIAN RELICS BEING DISCOVERED.

Maj. J. Roberts, Jr., is discovering many traces of that "vanishing race" in grading the plot of ground he recently purchased on Carey avenue, near Division street. A few feet below the surface the jaw bone of an Indian was unearthed, also a lot of blue beads, rings and arrow heads, which the aborigines no doubt prized highly. The lower part of the city was an Indian burying ground a hundred years or so ago, and is no doubt strewn with the bones of poor Lo. A couple of skeletons are also being unearthed.—[Daily Record, Oct. 24, 1895.

DEATH OF MRS. COONS.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, 1895, at her home, 53 North Washington street, occurred the death of Mrs. Hannah, wife of Joseph Coons, after an illness of three weeks of paralysis. Death came suddenly, but she fell painlessly asleep, and the ending of her long life was a peaceful benediction.

Mrs. Coons was born in Neuhaus, Bavaria, March 23, 1815, and came to America in 1837. On Sept. 19, 1840, she was united in marriage with Joseph Coons, the ceremony taking place in this city.

Five daughters and four sons were born: Mrs. Carrie Williams, Mrs. Abraham Kline of this city, Mrs. Henry Tuchman of Germany, Mrs. Max Rosenbluth and Miss Emma Coons, also of this city; David J. Coons of this city, Samuel J., who died here in 1883; Willard F., of Nanticoke, and Joseph S. of the firm of J. S. Coons & Co. of Public Square.

Joseph Coons, her husband, was one of the pioneer merchants of Wilkes-Barre. He started in business on Public Square in 1839, and in 1863 established a business in Philadelphia. In 1877 he returned to this city and reopened a store and continued in business until four years ago, when he retired to spend the remainder of his days in the quiet and peace of his home. He is now 78 years of age, and one of our most highly honored citizens. He is the oldest Mason in Wilkes-Barre, having joined old Lodge 61 in 1842.

The real worth of such a woman as was Mrs. Coons is known only to those with whom she comes in contact. Those noble qualities that make of life one grand sweep of harmony she had in their fulness. Her deeds of charity were many, and her sweet disposition made her a favorite with all who knew her.

DEATH OF MISS FRANCES M. THOMAS.

Died, at Morristown, N. J., Frances Mary, daughter of the late Abraham Thomas of Wilkes-Barre. For the past twenty years she has lived with her sister, Latona Alden Thomas, at Wyoming cottage in Morristown, named in honor of their early home, in a quaint little cottage replete with relics of yesteryear.

The remains were brought here for burial on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1895, to rest with her ancestors. She was a lineal descendant of John Alden in the seventh generation, of John Mason in the eighth generation, of John Jameson and Lazarus Stewart in the third generation, names distinguished in our colonial and revolutionary history.

DEATH OF MRS. MARY E. DORAN.

A life of 83 years full of the sunshine of noble deeds was closed Monday, Nov. 4, 1895, when Mrs. Mary Eyre Doran of West Market street passed into the peaceful sleep of death. Her last moments seemed to foretell a happiness that passeth understanding. To the following children she leaves a blessed heritage more to be prized than the wealth of the world: James S. Doran, of Philadelphia, Ellen D. Bowdle of Cincinnati, Susan E., Anna M. and Elizabeth E. of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. R. A. Hutchison of Kingston.

Mrs. Doran was born in Philadelphia in 1807, and married William S. Doran,

who died in Wilkes-Barre in March, 1873. She was a relative of the noted novelist, J. Fenimore Cooper, and her father, Isaac Eyre, was of the well known firm of shipbuilders of Philadelphia, Eyre & Landell. Mr. and Mrs. Doran came to Wyoming Valley in 1852 and moved to Wilkes-Barre from a farm about twenty-five years ago. Mrs. Doran's ancestors were prominent in the religious sect known as the Society of Friends.

Those who knew Mrs. Doran will ever cherish her memory. Her purpose and aim in life seem to have been to cast sunshine about her and her heart and hands were ever held out in aid of distressed humanity. Her nature was in unison with all that is good and true and noble and her life stands out as a shining example of such high ideals, that others may gather inspiration to emulate it.

LOWEST IN SEVENTY YEARS.

Hudson Owen of Berwick is now about 85 years old. He has been superintendent of the Pennsylvania Canal Co. for over sixty years and for about seventy years has made it a practice to marking a certain stone in the river every year at low water time. He says the river is one and one-half inches lower this year than any year during his observation.—[Daily Record, Oct. 31, 1895.]

DEATH OF GENERAL TRAFFIC MANAGER TAYLOR.

John Taylor, general traffic manager of the Lehigh Valley R. R., died on Saturday, Nov. 2, 1895, at his home in Bethlehem, from a paralytic stroke. Two years ago he suffered his first stroke and spent several months in Europe. Feeling recuperated, he resumed work upon his return, and enjoyed fairly good health until he was again stricken down. With his family at his bedside, he passed away peacefully. Thomas Taylor and Mrs. E. H. Chase of Wilkes-Barre were brother and sister of Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor had a world-wide acquaintanceship. He was born of English parents in Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 16, 1832, attended the schools of town and obtained such an education as boys got in the country schools of fifty years ago. He left home early, and obtained a position in a hardware store in New York city, but desiring a more active life, applied to L. F. Chapman, who had been placed

in charge of one of the engineer corps engaged in construction of the Lehigh Valley R. R., and secured the position of rodman. This was late in the summer of 1853. Mr. Taylor remained with his corps until the road was completed in September, 1855.

Mr. Taylor's activity and affable manners made him many friends and attracted the attention of the management of the road and he was put in charge of the Mauch Chunk station, the northern terminus of the road, where he was installed as freight and passenger agent, remaining there some years, gaining steadily the confidence of the officers. He was made general freight agent of the company in 1862. When the railroad began to spread north and south, east and west, and a man was required to meet with the freight agents of its various connecting railroads and arrange freight and passenger tariffs, covering the entire country, Mr. Taylor was selected as general traffic manager. In a few years he became universally known and respected. When the Philadelphia & Reading R. R. leased the Lehigh Valley the president, Mr. McLeod, made it a condition that Mr. Taylor was to remain in the service. When the lease fell Mr. Taylor returned to his first employer, and remained until his death one of its most valued officers.

Mr. Taylor in 1858 married Miss Anna Esser of Mauch Chunk, daughter of the late George Esser. From this union came a family of three daughters and six sons, who, with his widow, survive him. Mr. Taylor continued to reside in Mauch Chunk until the summer of 1891, when he removed to Bethlehem.

FATHER OF THE LATE JOHN TAYLOR.

The father of John Taylor, Lehigh Valley traffic manager, who died in Bethlehem a few days ago, was Edmund Taylor, a prominent Wilkes-Barrean, and was commissioned associate judge of Luzerne County January 15, 1850. He emigrated to this country in 1818, locating in this city the same year, where he remained until his death in 1881. Edmund Taylor was married December 28, 1828, to Mary Ann Wilson of Connecticut. Judge Taylor was also treasurer of Luzerne County from 1857 to 1859. By trade he was a saddler and carried on that trade in this city from 1823 to within a few years of his death.

HIER EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNIVERSARY.

A surprise party was held at the home of Rachel Pace in Larksville October 30, 1895, to celebrate Mrs. Pace's eighty-sixth birthday anniversary. Mrs. Pace is one of the descendants of Peggy Lark, the oldest resident who ever lived in Larksville. Mrs. Lark died at the age of 106 years, and Larksville takes its name from her. There were four generations present at the party. Money and handsome presents were brought and a general good time was had.

THE LATE EMILY CIST BUTLER.

At a meeting of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution held Oct. 23, 1895, the committee on resolutions—Stella D. Reynolds, Ellen Wright Graeme, Augusta D. Farnham—submitted the following, which was adopted:

This chapter has suffered a painful loss by the recent death of one of our best loved members, Miss Emily Cist Butler, who died on the 18th day of August, 1895, after a long illness, during which her friends had many alternations of hope and despair as to her recovery. It is with peculiar sadness that we are affected by Miss Butler's death. She was not only one of the charter members of the chapter, but she may be considered as being, in some respects, its originator here, as it was through her and by her that local attention was at first directed to the subject of its organization. So unobtrusive, however, so shrinking from anything like publicity, was her nature, that she could not bring herself to the point of taking prominent action in the work and she gladly passed it into the hands of others to carry it through to consummation.

Aside from these considerations, there are others, pertaining to Miss Butler's personal qualities which require special remark. Her unobtrusiveness had already been mentioned and while this, in the eye of strangers, might be regarded as being almost a negative quality, in the estimation of those who well knew her it was one of the virtues of her character. It was not from want of interest or sympathy that she refrained from taking prominent part in active work. She was full of both. It was from her feeling that others were better able and could accomplish more. Her heart went out in all good and charitable work, but it was in the private relationship of "friend" that she appeared pre-eminent. Nobody could be truer; none more steadfast; none more sincere. Loyalty to friendship was of the very essence of her nature, but it was not a blind loyalty, for

she had a love of truth, with sincerity and modest candor in its expression. She was, moreover, of devout and Christian spirit. She had grown up in this community and died on the very spot of ground on which she had always lived and was born. It is no wonder, therefore, that, with these traits of character and belonging, as she did, to one of the historic families of the valley, her circle of friendship should be large and her personal worth be so well known and appreciated. It is most fitting that we who survive her should lay this tribute upon her bier. We therefore recommend the adoption of the sentiments expressed by this memorial and also the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the members of Wyoming Valley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution have learned with deep regret of the death of their fellow member, Miss Emily Cist Butler. Miss Butler was a valued and loved member of the chapter and her memory will always be fondly cherished by it.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, with the accompanying expression of the sentiment of the chapter, be furnished to the family of our deceased friend, and that we tender to them our condolence upon the sad loss which they have sustained.

Resolved, That these resolutions, with the accompanying memorial be published in the leading city papers.

WELLES FAMILY REUNION.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 9, 1895.]

The following taken from the Towanda Republican refers to some of the most prominent families in this vicinity. Those mentioned were all born in Wyandoming, the old homestead, now occupied by George H., one of the brothers of this distinguished family: "Matthias Hollenback Welles of Elmira, N. Y., George Hollenback Welles of Wyandoming, Raymond M. Welles of Towanda, John Welles Hollenback and Edward Welles of Wilkes-Barre, met at the residence of R. M. Welles in this place on Monday last, the occasion being the 70th birthday anniversary of one of the number. Rev. Henry H. Welles of Forty Fort was unable to be present on account of illness. Of the six of the family four have attained or passed the age of 70 years. The father of the Welles brothers was the late Charles F. Welles, who at the time of the organization of this county was appointed prothonotary, register and recorder and clerk of the Orphans' Court, which position he filled with credit for several terms."

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 9, 1895.]

In order to awaken an interest in the work of the Wyoming Historical Society it has been arranged to give a series of informal socials in the handsome building which the organization is so fortunate as to occupy for a home. The first of these occasions was last evening, and there was a large and interested gathering. The president, Judge Stanley Woodward was in the chair and no business was transacted, the meeting being purely social. Judge Woodward recalled the modest organization of the society and some of its later vicissitudes, comparing them with the very encouraging and promising present.

A paper was read by Dr. F. C. Johnson descriptive of a Moravian vesper and a visit to Nazareth, Northampton County. The vesper is the annual meeting of the Moravian Historical Society, and it is held every September in the Whitefield house, a venerable structure begun a century and a half ago by George Whitefield, the famous evangelist of the middle of the last century. Whitefield had gone to Georgia in company with John Wesley, they being sent out as missionaries of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. Owing to the outbreak of the war between Spain and England, which imperiled the work of missions in Georgia (Wesley, who had been deeply influenced in his theological views by his contact with the Moravians) returned to England in 1738, in which year Methodism, as we know it historically was born. The next year his companion, Whitefield, went North in company with his Moravian friends, they settling in Pennsylvania. Both these men had a profound influence on the religious life of both England and America during the year that followed. Though differing materially in certain doctrinal points, they cut loose from the Established Church and played an important part in laying the foundations of what was destined to become the great Methodist Church. Whitefield, or Whitfield, as he is called, had it in his mind to establish an orphanage for negro children, and he accordingly engaged the Moravians to erect a large building for him on a five thousand acre plot which he had bought at Nazareth. He did not carry out his purpose and sold the building to the Moravians, who

have occupied it ever since. It has for some years been the permanent home of the Moravian Historical Society, and in it are displayed the portraits, relics, curios, coins, etc., of that organization.

In September of each year the annual meeting is held in this venerable and ivy covered stone structure, and it is called a vesper. The large interior is occupied by parallel rows of tables, spread with white linen and covered with various dainty viands, conspicuous among which is Moravian sugar cake and coffee. The former is a delicious article, its brown and buttered crust being plentifully sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar. The sexes sit apart, after the ancient custom. After taking place at table all rise and sing a grace, the bishop presiding. After the vesper meal, which is enlivened by pleasant social intercourse, the plates are pushed back—banquet fashion—and the men light their cigars and the women busy themselves at knitting, embroidery or needlework. While thus pleasantly engaged historical papers are read. The occasion is a novel and interesting one and the day is an important one in Nazareth.

The essayist said that at the vesper he sat alongside the Rev. Robert de Schweinitz, who was full of reminiscences about Wilkes-Barre boys who were fellow pupils of his upwards of 60 years ago—now all dead: N. Miller Horton, 1830; L. D. Shoemaker, 1831; William H. Butler and Thomas Brodrick, 1832. The school at Nazareth is a venerable one, dating back to 1755. It used to have a good many pupils from Luzerne County before our own excellent preparatory schools were established.

Dr. Johnson's paper then touched upon the early history of Nazareth and the important part it played in the French and Indian wars of the middle of the last century, its Rose Tavern having a place in colonial history. It was an asylum for fugitives from Indian barbarities on the Susquehanna and Delaware. Its sign bore a red rose, the emblem of the baronial fealty of the owners to the Penn family, for Nazareth was a barony and its owners were required to pay the Penn family or their heirs a red rose in June of every year. The Moravians still acknowledge the obligation if demanded, though it is no longer demanded. Mention was made by the essayist of the old burying ground at Nazareth where the dead are buried in the order of their departure, on the

principle that death brings all to a common level. Incidental reference was made to the Easter and Christmas festivals and other Moravian observances.

THE PENN ESTATE LITIGATION.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 6, 1895.]

Some months ago the Record published a history of the claim of Reverdy Penn Davis, of Washington, D. C., as an heir to the William Penn estate. Reference was also made to the claim of William Dugald Stuart, who claims to be the sole heir, for the ownership of a square of ground in the city of Easton once belonging to the Penn family. The Easton case has just been disposed of by the Supreme Court of the United States. This tribunal reverses the Circuit Court of the United States, on the ground that while Stuart was described in the Circuit Court proceedings as a citizen of London, England, his alienship was not shown. This action of the Supreme Court throws the case back into the Circuit Court, and if the defect is so trivial as it would appear, Mr. Stuart stands a good show of being a winner yet. Readers of the Record will remember that he also lays claim to several tracts of land in Luzerne County, as an heir of the Penns. Following is a formal transcript of the decision, which will interest persons who are affected by the litigation:

Supreme Court of the United States.
No. 151 October Term, 1894.
William Stewart, In Error to the Circuit Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania,
vs.
The City of Easton and County of Northampton.

(January 21st, 1895.)

The Chief Justice: Plaintiff in error is described throughout the record as "a citizen of London, England," and the defendants as "corporations of the State of Pennsylvania." As the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court confessedly depended on the alienage of plaintiff in error, and that fact was not made affirmatively to appear, the judgment must be reversed at the cost of plaintiff in error, and the cause be remanded to the Circuit Court with leave to apply for amendment and for further proceedings.

Judgment reversed.

SOME OLD PEOPLE.

[Scranton Republican, Dec. 12, 1895.]

At LaGrange, Wyoming County, the other day three old gentlemen met whose aggregate ages figured up 240

years. They were Gen. John Jackson, aged 84; David Osterhout, 79, and Jeremiah Osterhout, 77 years. The oldest person in Tunkhannock is Phoebe Osterhout, who is in her 85th year. Lemon, the adjoining township, has three old people, Orval Ball, 88 years; Hallstead Stark, 84, and Francis Patterson, also 84 years of age. The old gentleman Ball is the youngest of them all, having the other day ridden bare back seven miles to town and transacted business, and mounting his colt without any help went riding back again. Mrs. Seth Stark, who died recently in Nicholson Township, was in her 80th year.

EARLY CHURCH HISTORY.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 13, 1895.]

The course of three lectures under the auspices of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, opened Tuesday evening in the parish building of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, in the presence of a good sized audience. Two other lectures by the same gentleman, Rev. W. G. Andrews, D. D., of Guilford, Conn., will follow, Nov. 22 and Nov. 26. The lecturer, who is a classmate of Rev. Dr. Hodge, spoke here last July before the Sons of the Revolution, and is an accomplished student of history, and the lectures of the present course are those prepared by him for delivery in New England under the auspices of the University Extension.

The characteristics of the Great Awakening of 1740 were given, the change which religious opinion underwent from dependence upon good works to dependence upon faith in God, from the idea that salvation could be earned to the idea that it was a heavenly gift, from the idea that God was a terrible and cruel judge to the idea of his fatherhood. Mention was made of the narrowness of conversion, the arousing of men's fears and the bringing them under the influence of excitement, and the seeking, not so much a higher life as a longer creed. The speaker said the great revival had a kind of withering effect, from which Connecticut did not recover for sixty years. Allusion was made to the labors of John Wesley and George Whitefield and the protest of Jonathan Edwards, the greatest revivalist of his time, against undue excitement, and who advocated that what was wanted was experimental religion rather than feeling. The speaker thought it strange

that his strong appeal should not have saved New England from the emotional idea. People were turned into spiritual hypochondriacs, forever fingering their pulses.

The Church of England in the colonies was pretty fully considered. There were congregations in all the colonies, but spiritual life was sluggish, particularly in Virginia and Maryland. In the latter the work was greatly hampered by the presence of unworthy and ungodly rectors, religious adventurers, who had left England in order to get away from the restraint of their bishops, and who were exercising a pernicious influence in the colonies. The lecturer then traced the work of that great organization, the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel, and its influence in remedying matters by supplying men actuated with pure missionary zeal. The church in the colonies was under the direction of commissaries. Mention was made of the missionary labors of John Sargent and David Brainard. The Episcopal Church furnished what the children of the Puritans wanted—the sacraments. An interesting account was given of the conflicts over the matter of the sacraments, the adoption of the half-way covenant and the gradual unsettlement of theological ideas on these subjects, and the friction between the Episcopal Church (which was coming to be looked upon as a foreign institution) and the other religious bodies around it.

DEATH OF MRS. RUTH B. HILLARD

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 20, 1895.]

The announcement of the death of Mrs. Ruth Butler Hillard at Atlantic City early Tuesday morning has caused deep sorrow among all her friends in this city. Mrs. Hillard had been ill for some time, although her ailment was not considered of serious consequence until last summer. Some time ago she left for Atlantic City in the hope that her health might be benefited and just before she left she was able to entertain her friends.

Her daughters, Mrs. Robert Sayre, Jr., and Miss Josephine Hillard, and her son, L. B. Hillard, were with her when she died.

Mrs. Hillard's husband, William S. Hillard, who died several years ago, was a son of Oliver Hillard. E. G. Butler of this city is a brother of deceased and Mrs. Eugene Ayres of Audenried, a sister. The late Zebulon

Butler was a brother.

Mrs. Hillard was a daughter of the late Lord Butler, one of the most prominent men of his time. He did much important work as a civil engineer on the old canal and on the Lehigh Valley R. R. from White Haven to the top of the mountain, and was also a pioneer coal operator at Pittston with his brother, Col. John L. Butler, and his brother-in-law, Judge Mallory. He died Nov. 27, 1861, in the brick house now occupied by Brown's book store, on Public Square, which was built by his father-in-law, Joseph Slocum, in 1807 and was one of the first if not the first brick building erected in Luzerne County, and the first three-story building in the county. He was a member of the Wilkes-Barre council, a trustee of Wyoming Seminary and was prominent in the First M. E. Church. His wife was Abi S. Slocum, who was descended from a family distinguished in the exciting incidents and hardships of early Wyoming. The Butlers of Wyoming Valley were descended from Zebulon Butler, who was born in Connecticut in 1731 and came to Wyoming Valley in 1769. He, as well as some of his descendants, was distinguished in military life and his name is often mentioned in the early history of Wyoming.

The husband of deceased, William S. Hillard, was a well-known business man in this city. Mrs. Hillard was a woman of many graces of character. She inherited the energy and other traits that made many of her ancestors so prominent and combined with these the qualities of a true and noble womanhood.

A DISTINGUISHED ANCESTRY.

There is living in Tunkhannock a granddaughter of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States, who did the country such valuable service in the dark days of the revolution. Her name is Mrs. S. M. Meredith Graham, wife of Capt. W. G. Graham.

The Record recently printed a letter from Mrs. Graham in which she gave a history of interesting incidents in the life of her illustrious grandfather.

The Gramahs of Tunkhannock recently received invitation cards, accompanied by a warm personal letter, from Mrs. Graham's cousin, Gen. Meredith Read, to attend the marriage of the general's daughter, Miss Marie Drephine Meredith Read, to Count Max de Foras, whose civil marriage took place in Paris, France, Nov. 4, the religious ceremony following the next day at the Church of St. Philippe du Route.

The Reads are an Anglo-American house of antiquity and distinction. One of them married a cousin of Queen Elizabeth. Col. John Read purchased large manorial estates in Maryland and Delaware, and was a prominent figure in colonial and revolutionary periods, contributing largely to the foundation and subsequent consolidation of the government of the United States. The Reads with their relatives have furnished seven signers to the Declaration of Independence, five signers of the constitution of the United States and five signers of the "Compact" on board the Mayflower in 1620. Senator John Read married Gen. Samuel Meredith's daughter, Martha Meredith. He was a son of the signer of the Declaration of Independence, and distinguished himself as a leader of his party, held various high offices, and opened his purse and exposed his life during the yellow fever plague in Philadelphia in 1793. His oldest son, Chief Justice John Meredith Read, distinguished as a jurist and statesman, was eminent in public life for fifty years, and was prominently mentioned in 1860 for the Republican nomination for the presidency of the United States. Gen. Meredith Read is his only son, and is now living in Paris, France. He was consul general of the United States at Paris during the Franco-German war, and for his distinguished services during the siege and the commune received the thanks of the French and German governments and of the President of the United States in his annual message to Congress. He represented the American government at the court of Athens for seven years, rendering important service to the king and to the Hellenic nation, for which he was created a knight of the Grand Cross of the Redeemer.

Mrs. Graham of Tunkhannock has been in feeble health for some time past, being confined to the house much of the time, and was, of course, unable to attend the wedding. She has been interesting herself in an effort to secure the erection of a suitable monument to the memory of the first treasurer of the United States, whose grave, near Honesdale, Wayne County, has been allowed to go almost unmarked, and hopes when the condition of affairs is understood by Gen. Meredith Read, to secure his co-operation in behalf of their common ancestor.

DIED IN CLINTON COUNTY.

Lyman Flick, a former resident of Dallas, died at North Bend, Clinton county, Pa., recently. Mr. Flick was born near Dallas and resided there until the war broke out, when he enlisted in Capt. Jack Rice's company and left Dallas on Sept. 1, 1861, for the front, and served during the war in Co. F, 53d Pa. Vols. — [Wilkes-Barre Record, Nov. 27, 1895.]

WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

No. 3.

The following tender lines are taken from the Wilkes-Barre Advocate of fifty or more years ago. Does anybody know the author?

For the Advocate.

TO E. L. T.

I've read of peris, fays and sprites,
And such like elfin things,
That sport the sweet mid-summer nights,
Aroud their grassy rings;
And I have heard a poet rant,
As though his lady-love
Had just come down, an emigrant,
From some bright world above.

But in my homely way of thought,
These extra-mundane creatures
Have fewer charms, tho' fancy wrought,
Than some with human features;
For earthly beauty (such as thine,)
Needs no celestial fixins;
And when we call the girls divine,
We only mean they're vixens.

It's said the seraphs ring their harps
To gentle themes above;
But can they come the flats and sharps
That chequer woman's love?
I reckon not. They can't begin
With living flesh and blood,
To win a heart—to sew or spin,
Or cook a steak as good.

No, no, dear girl—thy sunny smile,
So life-like, warm and real,
Out-charms the blandest fairy wile,
In all the realms ideal.
And wert thou more than what thou art,—
A lassie young and fair,
With winning brow and gentle heart,
You'd find the beaux more rare.

—J. D. G.

[Since the above was printed the Record has learned from Miss Mary Bowman that the author was Dr. Thomas Drake, a young practicing physician here. The initials "J. D. G." stood for a nickname borne by him when a boy, "John D. Grimes."]

STRANGE INDIAN DANCES.

Salamanca, N. Y., Sept. 21, 1895.—As the harvest season approaches and the farmer begins to think of his harvest supper and the good times and the good things that are to come at the season of the "harvest home," just so the dusky red men living on the Cattaraugus Reservation begin at this season of the year to look forward to their green-corn dance, that annual celebration in which young and old, squaw and brave, join together.

Down among the hills of Cattaraugus County, through which the Allegany

River winds in long curves, the Seneca Nation of Indians has dwelt for centuries. Here was the home of the noted Mary Jinnerson, and here have her descendants lived since her time in peaceful seclusion. Very little of the old fighting stock remains, although sometimes you may see one of the older generation travel about, clad in a long robe and wearing moccasins upon his feet. Perhaps he has also a turkey feather stuck in his hat, and struts about among his brethren, the envy of all the younger "bucks." He can tell them stories of battles fought in his younger days, and, if he can speak English, his white brethren are often regaled with hair-raising stories of bloodshed and massacre that he witnessed when he was young.

Although the older generation is fast passing away, and with their disappearance is coming a more intelligent and more thrifty class, the Seneca Indian has been found at all times to be especially tenacious in holding to the traditions of his nation. The Indian schools and the Indian churches have done inestimable good in raising the red men on the Cattaraugus Reservation. But there are customs among them that have their source in the religious ideas of the people that bid fair to last from year to year, while the Seneca Nation preserves its present republican form, and by far the most interesting of these is the Indian's "green-corn dance." No Indians live who can tell when this custom originated. It is an annual thanksgiving ceremony to their deity in return for the crops. No matter whether the harvests have been plentiful or scanty, the celebration is held. The Indian is proverbially a philosophical being, and neither rain nor snow disturbs his peace of mind. Consequently, it comes about that there is little danger of a miscarriage in this event.

The middle of September is the time usually set for the event. About two weeks before the date of the green-corn dance a courier fantastically dressed is sent throughout the length and breadth of the reservation to notify the people of the coming event. His coming is hailed with joy, and he is fasted and dined all along the route. Nothing in the possession of the Indians is too good for the distinguished visitor, and he is listened to with the greatest reverence and respect while he delivers his proclamation.

The green-corn dance on the Catta-

raugus Reservation is held each year at the council house at the town of Cornplanter. This place is about twelve miles from the town of Salamanca, and down the course of the Allegany River from the latter town. The council house is the building where the meetings in which the whole nation is interested are held. It is a plain building, of rectangular shape, with two stories, and has a row of benches extending around the whole of the interior. Other than this the building contains no furniture except what is carried there on the occasion of celebrations. The date of the event having been noised abroad, the Indians bring to the council house, a few days before the time set, whatever they deem necessary to make the feast complete. Some bring along a good fat dog, others corn, beans, cabbage, chickens, or whatever fancy leads them to select.

On the day set for the beginning of the celebration the whole tribe flocks to the house. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon the celebration begins. Inside of the building are gathered the more sedate of the Indians, while many remain outside, lolling about upon the grass or sitting on the fences. About the interior of the council house are seated the "squaws" and "bucks" of the tribe, the "squaws" at one end of the building and the "bucks" at the other. They sit solemnly in their places, the "bucks" making monosyllabic remarks to each other in their native tongue. As one enters, an Indian brother accosts him with the salutation, "Hus-kee-nuh," (How are you?) and he responds, "Yah-guh," (Very well.)

The exercises begin with addresses delivered by several of the older men of the tribe in the Indian dialect. Their remarks are listened to with great attention, and approbation is expressed by low grunts at frequent intervals. The speakers talk in a chant, and at various points in the addresses their looks and gestures are wild in the extreme. The addresses concluded, the men and women drop out of the expectant and listening attitude in which they were and the audience begins to disperse through the door and windows. It is a noticeable fact that during the last of the addresses the auditors are very restless, and fidget about in their seats, the women casting sidelong glances at some gay ribbon or string of beads

that another wears, and the men engaging in a low guttural conversation. The Indian loves a feast, and the amount which he eats is only limited by the amount that is set before him. The reason for this restlessness is thus seen. The feast which immediately precedes the green-corn dance is about to begin.

The Indians soon appear, each bringing a tin pail or some other small receptacle. In the centre of the room are four large caldron kettles. One of them is filled almost to the rim with cooked dog meat. The meat is immersed in an ocean of gravy, and this delicacy is especially pleasing to the palate of the red man. In another kettle is a compound of turnips, squash and other vegetables. Another kettle contains a cabbage stew with a liberal amount of gravy. In another kettle is the succotash, the Indians being almost as partial to this as to the dog meat. The "toastmaster," who is always an elder of the tribe, presides at the feast, and at first serves out the eatables to each man or woman who comes up. But at last, when the crowd becomes more importunate he allows them to help themselves. This each one does by thrusting his dish into the kettle and bringing out as much as it will hold. As soon as one of the tribe has received his allowance of food he goes out of the council house and lies in the shade of the bushes or of the building. When it is all eaten they settle back and sleep off the effects of their meal.

About sundown the people begin to collect in the council house for the dance. As soon as the arrangements are completed the musicians strike up. The orchestra consists of two men with a drum. The rattles are made by taking the horn of an ox, putting in some shot or pebbles, and plugging up the open end. Another favorite "rattle" is made by taking the body of a swamp turtle and dressing it. The neck is then stretched out and splints fastened around it to make the neck rigid. Some bullets or pebbles are put into the body, and then the skin is sewed up. The result is an excellent "rattle." The drum is made by stretching a piece of skin over a hoop about eight inches in diameter. The drumstick is a piece of wood with metal at the end, the metal being covered by a thick piece of skin. When the drum is struck a dull sound is thus produced.

The oldest man in the tribe, who still retains the old pagan ideas, leads the

dance. He is dressed in leggins and moccasins and his head is ornamented with feathers. He starts off in a circle about the players. As more and more of the braves and squaws join in the dance the circle becomes larger and larger. The musicians become warmed up in their work, and the dancers enter more into the spirit of the occasion. Their steady tramp, tramp, tramp around the orchestra becomes quicker, the leader gives out his long, piercing yell more often, and his followers join in more quickly. He executes more and more fancy steps. The musicians rise to their feet, and strain every muscle to keep the long procession dancing around in perfect line. Finally a long wail from the lips of the leader proclaims that this number is over, and the dancers retire to their seats to rest for another number. This is continued again and again until they are all thoroughly tired out and can dance no more. It is usually nearly daybreak when the leader rises and starts off the last dance, and in that time it has been necessary to change the musicians about many times. The same course has been pursued from year to year among the Indians on the reservation, and will, without doubt, be the last custom that will be lost by the Seneca Nation of Indians.—New York Times. [See p. 93.—Ed.]

EARLY WYOMING SETTLERS.

Mahlon S. Brink, who died in Smithville, Minnesota, Nov. 21, 1895, having formerly lived in New Jersey and Bethlehem, Pa., came from ancestors who figured prominently in early Wyoming.

His ancestors on his father's side emigrated from Holland more than 200 years ago and settled in the vicinity of Middletown, N. Y. During the revolution and the war of 1812 the Brinks took a prominent part in the defense of this country. His grandfather, Daniel Brink, moved with his large family from New York State to Wilkes-Barre, some time before the Indian troubles in Wyoming Valley. At the time of the Wyoming massacre Daniel Brink took part against the Indians. His wife made her escape by riding a horse from Wilkes-Barre, through the wilds, to Stroudsburg, carrying a child in her arms. One of the children, a girl, was made captive by the Indians, but subsequently rescued alive.

On his mother's side his grandfather, William Wright, emigrated from the

north of Ireland, settled in Philadelphia, and about 1783 he married Sarah Ann Osbourne, who was a native of Philadelphia, of Quaker descent. They subsequently moved to Wilkes-Barre, where they both taught school. This being about the time of the Indian troubles near Kingston, some of the family were killed by the Indians. Three of Mahlon Brink's mother's brothers on the Wright side were prominent in the United States army, as were their sons and sons-in-law.

GEOLOGY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

[Phila. Press, Nov. 18, 1895.]

The summary of the geology of Pennsylvania, which is now issuing from the State press, has reached volume III, part 1, which deals with the carboniferous formation. The most important feature of this volume is the report on the anthracite region of Pennsylvania by A. D. W. Smith, [now located in Wilkes-Barre, son of J. Bennett Smith] which is as exhaustive as this most valuable industry of the State could warrant. The figures that accompany the report are startling in their magnitude. Since 1820 820,362,995 tons of anthracite have been shipped from the mines in a production of 902,000,000 tons. It is estimated also that while 2,255,000,000 tons have been used up in getting out the coal shipped to market, there are still 17,245,000,000 tons left in the ground. These few figures give an idea of the vastness of the coal supply that overlies the Pocono formation of Pennsylvania. Mr. Smith's treatise covers the whole ground, and as it brings the work down to 1893 it makes the report of extra value.

DEATH OF MRS. JOHN B. SMITH.

Monday, Nov. 25, 1895, occurred the death of Mrs. Eveline Keeler Smith, wife of Hon. John B. Smith, one of the oldest and most widely known residents of the valley, at her home in Forty Fort, aged 70 years. The deceased had been quite feeble for the past year, but death was not expected. The previous Thursday, with her children and grandchildren about her she celebrated the seventieth anniversary of her birth and was in the best of spirits. On Saturday she was seized with a pain in her left side, in the region of the heart, and it continued to grow worse until the end came.

Mrs. Smith was a companionable lady

and a devout Christian. Early in life she identified herself with the M. E. Church and since then has always been a leading spirit in church work.

She was born in Keelersburg, Wyoming County, in 1825, and was a daughter of Asa Keeler of that place. She was married to Mr. Smith in 1850, being his second wife. They lived in Plymouth until 1867, when they removed to Forty Fort, where they have since resided. She is survived by a husband and two children, Miss May Virginia, who resides at home, and Mrs. Harvey Yeager of Forty Fort. There are also two step-children, R. N. Smith and Mrs. Dr. Rickard of Plymouth.

Mr. Smith, although in his seventy-seventh year, is still enjoying good health. He was born in Plymouth in 1819, where Smith's Opera House now stands. He started out in life a poor boy, but is now one of the largest real estate owners on the West Side. He takes a great interest in agricultural pursuits, and for a number of years has been a member of the National Agricultural Association.

FORMER WILKES-BARRE LADY DEAD.

Mrs. Frances N. Laverty, widow of William Laverty, died in Elizabeth, N. J., on Nov. 18, 1895.

Mrs. Laverty had been a resident of Elizabeth for years, and is mourned by a large circle of admiring friends, in whose esteem she held a prominent place. She was 74 years of age, and had survived her husband thirty years.

She is survived by three sons, all residents of Elizabeth, William K. Laverty, Cyrus G. Laverty and Charles D. Laverty.

Mrs. Laverty was the daughter of Rev. Cyrus Gildersleeve, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Wilkes-Barre seventy years ago, and sister of W. C. Gildersleeve, for many years a leading merchant of this city. She was born in the old stone house on River street, which was at the time occupied by her father as a parsonage, and still stands as a monument of what Wilkes-Barre once was. When at the age of 10 years Mrs. Laverty moved to New Jersey, where at the age of 19 she married. Her home since her marriage has been in Elizabeth, N. J., where her children were born and where she did her life work.

AN ANCIENT CRUCIFIX.

An interesting relic was unearthed the other day on the tract of land at the lower end of the city now being laid out into lots by Maj. J. Roberts, Jr. It is a crucifix and was found in an Indian grave by Wm. G. Downs, who presented it to Col. W. J. Harvey. In the same grave with it were perhaps a quart of beads. The crucifix is apparently of brass, nearly two inches long. On one side is Christ on the cross, below is a skull and cross bones. On the other side is a female figure, probably the Virgin.

What a story this old relic would tell if it had the power of speech. How long ago it was buried there along with its aboriginal owner we can only conjecture. All Indians had abandoned the valley when the first white settlers arrived in 1769, which is 121 years ago, and the pioneers left no record of any Indian burying grounds in the valley. So this crucifix must antedate the first settlement many years. How did it come here? The Jesuit fathers were in Canada a century and a half before Wyoming Valley was settled, and their influence ramified all through New York and Pennsylvania. Was this dusky warrior who took his last sleep along the Susquehanna a convert to those intrepid French missionaries, or had he taken it from some enemy while taking the latter's scalp? or were these crucifixes sold among the tribes by hardy traders of whom we know two were in Wyoming Valley as early as 1737? These and other inquiries come to mind, but we can get no answer.

The land on which the crucifix was found was an extensive burying ground and many relics have been found thereabouts. Unfortunately they have not fallen into hands where they will be treasured, but have been carried away piece-meal. It is said all the skeletons lie with their head toward the west, and some have been found in a sitting posture. One skeleton was gigantic in size. It is hoped that when the novelty of possession is past that the owners will turn over their interesting finds to the Historical Society. Maj. Jacob Roberts found a fine string of blue beads, said to be made of Scotch stone.

A LIKENESS OF THE LATE JUDGE ROSS.

There has been a perfect epidemic in the way of donating portraits to the Historical Society lately. A recent presentation is a crayon of the late Gen. William Sterling Ross, crayoned by George W. Leach, Jr., and presented to the Society by Hon. Charles A. Miner, one of the trustees, whose wife is a relative of the subject. The portrait is life-size and an excellent likeness.

Judge Ross was one of the pioneers in the organization of the Historical Society and it was he who gave the organization a big early boost nearly forty years ago by buying the Chambers collection of curiosities at a cost of \$2,000 and donating it to the Historical Society as a nucleus for its present splendid cabinet.

Judge Ross was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1802 and died here at the age of 66 years. His birth and death occurred in the same room of the same building—what used to be called the Pickering house, and more lately the Ross house. The building is now 108 years old, but does not look it. It was built by the famous Timothy Pickering in 1787, and from it John Franklin, the Connecticut leader was kidnapped by the Pennamites during the land war and carried captive into the Northern wilderness.

Though a college graduate (Princeton) Mr. Ross spent his life mainly in agricultural pursuits. He was much interested in local military affairs and passed through all the promotions until he became a brigadier general. For thirty years he was the acknowledged head of the volunteer system in Luzerne county. He was associate judge for several years and figured prominently in all the political and other activities of Wilkes-Barre. He was elected both Representative and Senator and became speaker of the Senate. He was a man of large charities and the Home for Friendless Children was helped by him to the extent of \$10,000. He left no children.

WHITFIELD, THE REVIVALIST.

Rev. Dr. Andrews of Guilford, Conn., gave the second of his lectures at St. Stephen's Church Friday evening, Nov. 22, 1895. It was a continuation of the former lecture on the New England revival of 1740 and had to do especially with George Whitfield and the missionaries of the Society for the Propagation

of the Gospel. Dr. Andrews gave a vivid word painting of the life and character of the great revivalist of the last century. Though a wonderful orator he was strangely fanatical and intolerant, alienating himself from the Episcopal communion and accusing his brother missionaries of all kinds of wrong teaching to say nothing of charging them with downright vice and immortality. Dr. Andrews attributed his singular action to the inexperience of youth, he being only 24 years old at the time the conflict was at its height. The lecturer showed that Whitfield's charges were not sustained by the facts; that the missionaries sent out by the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel were to the extent of more than 90 per cent. godly men, the equal of their brethren in the other communions. Even Whitfield afterwards admitted that he had been misinformed though he never made much of an effort at repairing the wrongs which he had done to the reputation of his brethren

THE ATHERTON REUNION.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Dec. 3, 1895.]

On Thursday last, at the home of H. F. Atherton, paymaster of the Delaware & Hudson Co. at Scranton, occurred one of those most enjoyable occasions, in the nature of an old-fashioned Thanksgiving family reunion and dinner, as already noted in the Record. The central and most revered personage of the occasion was the venerable J. H. Atherton, the father of the family, now in his 86th year, who came to Wyoming Valley from Vermont early in the forties, soon after, however, removing to Hyde Park, and thence to South Montrose, where he owned and tilled one of the finest farms in that section for over forty years, but during the past year has been living with his son, J. L. Atherton, of Scranton, his wife having died some thirty years ago. His descendants now living comprise six children—H. F. Atherton, the host; J. L. and B. B. Atherton, superintendents for the D. & H. Co.; Mrs. T. H. B. Lewis of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. David Sherer of South Montrose, and Mrs. H. T. Lake, of Binghamton, N. Y.; twenty-three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Of course the Athertons were very much in evidence at the reunion and very largely in the majority, the eleven people who have intermarried with them being a conspicuous minority. When, however,

the company came to view the elaborate spread of good things provided it was evident that one of this minority, the handsome and charming hostess, had contributed by far the largest part to the entertainment.

There was a profusion, delicately prepared and elegantly served, of all the components of a Thanksgiving feast, including as well the substantial which alone graced the tables of our ancestors as the modern fancies of flowers and confections that so adorn and season a feast, and also dainty souvenirs beautifully decorated by the artistic hand of Miss Carrie, one of the daughters of the house. In the midst of the feast also an unexpected pleasure was contributed in the reception of an official notice from the president of the D. & H. Co. that John R. Atherton, son of the host, had the day before been appointed assistant paymaster at Scranton.

With such a numerous commingling of relatives of all ages, from infancy to age, it goes without saying that with reminiscence and anecdote and the jollity of youth the hours sped fast and merrily.

It was one of those occasions which mark eras in the life of a family, and for which those participating will hold in grateful remembrance H. F. Atherton and family for providing so generous and graceful an entertainment.

DEATH OF EX-COUNTY COM'S'NER SAMUEL LINE.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Dec. 7, 1895.]

One of the most distressing accidents recorded in some time was that which befell ex-county commissioner Samuel Line of Carey avenue, father of letter carrier Line at Newport station last Friday afternoon, when part of his face was almost blown off by his own shot gun.

Mr. Line went hunting on Thursday morning and visited a cousin, Edward Line, near Hildebrant's, from which place he and his companion, Henry Vetter of Carey avenue, started to hunt.

They reached Gruver's hotel, near Triangular Lake, yesterday afternoon, and after dinner they started for Newport station of the Lehigh Valley R. R., about two miles from Triangular Lake. While in the station they started to eat lunch about 6 o'clock last evening. Mr. Line was sitting on a bench, holding

his gun between his knees. Mr. Vetter heard the train coming down the mountain and started for the platform, calling to Mr. Line to follow. In an instant there was a loud report, and Mr. Line was found upon the floor, a dreadful sight meeting the eyes of Mr. Vetter and the station agent. It is thought that when he attempted to get up he pulled the gun up also, and the trigger caught in a hook in his gun boots. The charge entered on the right side of the chin and came out near the left ear, causing an ugly wound.

The body was brought to this city at 7 o'clock last evening. The family was waiting for Mr. Line to return home from his hunt, and when they heard the men with the body they thought it was he coming towards the house. Instead the body was carried in, and the family was prostrated with grief.

Samuel Line was born in Hanover Township on April 18, 1830, and was the youngest child of a family of ten children, James, late of Hanover Township; Abram, late of Kingston; Henry of White Pigeon, Mich.; Mrs. Margaret Pell, late of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Martha Fairchild of Nanticoke; Mrs. Maria Robbins of Montgomery County, Kansas; Samuel of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. Elizabeth Mills, wife of George Mills of Laporte, Ind.; Mrs. Julia Ann Beaty, wife of James Beaty of Stephensburg, N. J.; Mrs. Catherine Raiseley, wife of Daniel Raiseley of Butler County, Pa., all deceased except the last three.

The parents were Henry and Annie E. Line, pioneer settlers of that township. Deceased followed farming in Hanover Township until 1876, when he was elected county commissioner, since which time he has been a resident of this city. He married Emma E. Butz of Easton, Pa., Oct. 27, 1859, and they had a family of seven children, six of whom survive: Mrs. Florence I. Robbins of Hazleton, M. L. Line, a letter carrier in Wilkes-Barre postoffice; L. W. Line, assistant money order and register clerk in Wilkes-Barre postoffice; Harry E. Line, bookkeeper for Farmers' Dairy Co., this city; Minnie M. Line and Manie E. Line. Mrs. Line died Feb. 14, 1891. Mr. Line was well known throughout Luzerne County and had a good reputation. While in the commissioners' office he was considered one of the most conscientious and economical commissioners the county

ever had. He also held all the important elective and appointive positions in Hanover Township. During the war he was commissioned enrolling officer of Hanover Township. In 1863 he was a member of Pennsylvania Volunteer Militia, Co. A, under Capt. Woodward.

When Nanticoke Borough was organized he was elected councilman, school director, director of Central poor district, and was a charter member of Warrior Lodge, 873, I. O. O. F., and encampment, and was treasurer of the lodge for several years.

About two years ago he had an attack of the grip, from which he never recovered and was constantly failing. He broke up housekeeping about four years ago and has since resided with his son, L. W. Line, 183 Carey avenue.

DOG MEAT IS NOT USED.

The following note has been received from Professor A. W. Potter:

I have read with interest the article in your historical column [p. 89] on the "Strange Indian Dances." I enclose clipping of letter printed in the New York Sun, which seems to contradict some of the statements made in your report, especially in reference to the "Feast of dog meat." This letter, written by a chief of the Iroquois Indians, and a woman of education, throws a different light on the habits and civilization of the Indian nations of New York, than some newspaper writers would have us believe. You may use this clipping as you see fit.

THE LETTER OF EXPLANATION.

To the editor of the Sun—Sir: Among the misrepresentations in your article, "The Seneca Corn Dance," I note one flagrant error, which, in justice to my friends, the Seneca Indians, I ask of you to correct. Your Salamanca correspondent writes: "The feast is a sight for an epicure. In the center of the hall are placed four large caldrons filled with choice Indian delicacies. One of these contains cooked dog meat, for which the fattest dogs on the reservation have been sacrificed. The fourth kettle is filled with a curious mixture of vegetables flavored with a single taste of the dog meat."

As a friend, sister and chief of the

Iroquois Indians, I must enter a protest against this record. The Seneca Indians have never eaten dog meat, nor has it been used by them in any manner save in the celebration of their New Year festival. In the "old times" as the type of a faithful friend, a white dog was, mercifully, put to death and religiously burned as a sacrifice to the Great Spirit. This national eucharistic symbol has existed among all peoples, as in the religious offerings of the ox, goat, lamb, etc. The Iroquois Indians have never sacrificed a human life in any of their religious observances.

I attend annually the various feasts of the Iroquois Indians. Our meat, which is purchased from the little hoarded store of the nation, is the very best of beef that can be obtained. The soup is not "flavored with dog," but the bit of salt pork that is cast into the kettle of corn and beans renders it deliciously wholesome and savory.

According to the last census statistics, the majority of the Iroquois are good farmers. The Indian lands at Salamanca are, in the greater portion, barren and fruitless, and many of the Senecas there are compelled to sustain themselves by berry picking, root digging, basket making and daily labor.

The "pale faces" at Salamanca have succeeded in wresting from the Senecas the fairest of their lands, which, by the late "ninety nine years' lease," will never be restored to them.

I spend a great portion of my time with these people, and in my intimate observance of their domestic and public life will add that their morality exceeds that of the white people. Intemperance among the Indians does not prevail to as great an extent as among the whites. As to their general honesty, I refer to the prison records. Inclusive of the 5,300 Indians in the State of New York in 1892 there were but sixteen criminals, and these were of minor, not serious, offenses. By the same census there were but four paupers among the Iroquois tribes, and these were supported by the charity of the Indian people themselves.

It is a regret and sorrow to see that it has become the habit among writers of Indian stories for the press to treat these people of dignified descent with a depreciating flippancy and untruthfulness that are neither history nor fact.

Chief Ya-ie-wa-noh.
(Harriet Maxwell Converse.)

Cattaraugus Indian Reservation,
October 1.

WYOMING VALLEY POETRY.

NO. 4.

The lines accompanying this item were dedicated to Lieut. James Munroe Bowman of this city who was a son of Gen. Isaac Bowman. He was one of four brothers, of whom three were soldiers: Francis L., an organizer of the Wyoming Artillerists and later was a captain in the United States army; Samuel Bowman was a colonel in the late war and was one of the first prisoners captured by the Confederates. James Munroe, or Munroe, as he was called, died in the far West in 1839 of typhoid fever while attached to the 1st United States Dragoons. His sister, Miss Mary Bowman, has several letters written him by Jefferson Davis, who was a young officer contemporary with him.

The author of the verses was Dr. Thomas Drake, the initials standing for his nickname, "John D. Grimes." Mr. Drake was uncle to William Drake Loomis of this city; his brother, George M., became a doctor of divinity. He married Regina Barton of Bloomsburg. His sister, Harriet Drake, married James, son of Ebenezer Bowman. The verses are taken from a Wilkes-Barre paper of 1839:

(From the Republican Farmer, 1839.)

LINES

On the death of Lieut. James M. Bowman.

He sleeps where the sunbeams love to play,

On the lonely flowery plain,
And the bugle's blast, the charger's neigh,

Will call the soldier in vain.

He rests in his dreamless bivouac,

Far, far from his own lov'd home,
In the land where first his sword gleam'd back

The light of the welkin dome.

The eagle glance of his daring eye,
Has gone to the starry light
That shines where his country's banners fly,

Where she breasts the foeman's might.

A star in the pathway of the brave,

Who bleed for their home's renown,—

The patriots meed—a glorious grave,
The tear and the laurel crown.

He sleeps where the note of the muffled drum

And his comrades' farewell shot,

Have peal'd the dirge on his earthly tomb,

And hallow'd the lonely spot.

Oh! long and well may the laurel grow

In fadeless green around it.

And fair the wreath on his gallant brow,

As the spirit hand that bound it.

—J. D. G.

AN HISTORICAL GAVEL.

The Allegheny County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution has a new gavel. The gavel was made from the wood of a mulberry tree to which was bound in 1720 the great-grandfather of Mrs. Hogg, John Harris, of Harrisburg, and from whom the city took its name. John Harris, as the record states, was bound to a tree to be burned to death by the Indians because he refused to sell them rum.

HISTORICAL REGISTER.

The American Historical Register of Philadelphia for November has for its frontispiece a beautifully colored and embossed reproduction of the insignia of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States of America. The whole style of the number is good and attractive and the illustrations—reproductions of old family portraits and olden-time American views—are particularly fine, half tone work. The magazine in every respect appears to be growing better with each number.

AN HISTORIC HOUSE.

By S. R. Smith.

The historical shrines in the valley are being swallowed up by the open jaws of the new epoch which swallows up with smiling ease every trace of those who occupied the familiar fields and streets of this valley.

One of the old shrines about which little is known by the general public was partly destroyed by fire not long ago. This was at the close of the last century considered a mansion. It stands on South Main street, below Northampton, on the right hand side going down. It is a long two story building that has for years been occupied on the ground floor by four different shops, as the building has four front doors and large double windows. This is the old Hollenback house.

About 1771 Matthias Hollenback came here from Virginia to gain fame and acquire a fortune—a dream which he realized by his talent and industry. He became in Northeastern Pennsylvania what Stephen Girard was in Philadelphia and vicinity, both in influence and wealth. He was associate judge for forty years, a great factor in the material prosperity, social and political life for two generations of this

section and his heirs and descendants maintain the prestige of the family. The story of the Hollenback family which we are now considering, begins with the store that Judge Matthias Hollenback built on the farm he owned, which extended from the west side of Public Square down below Northampton, extending over to Franklin street; also some land on the south side of Main. Where the car house of the traction company stands (on Northampton street) was an orchard, and in it he had a milk yard for his cows. His first store was built on the corner of South Main and Public Square. His property extended to the plot now occupied by the Welles and Laning buildings on Public Square. This store was burned the day after the massacre in 1778 by the invaders and his stock of goods destroyed. After his return to the valley (subsequent to his flight with the fugitives) he built the old house that is now standing on South Main street. This was where he began house keeping and here probably his three daughters and one son were born. From this building he carried on the largest business in this part of the State, for he had a number of large branch stores along the Susquehanna, extending up into York State. Millions of dollars worth of goods have been packed in the store room in the upper end of the building and hundreds of casks of Madeira and whisky found their way to the cellar to be shipped by Durham boats to his branch stores or to be sold to local merchants or retailed to the local trade. Here he accumulated a fortune that ranked him as one of the wealthiest men of this county.

This building became the most noted of any building in the valley. Strange as it may sound to us it was then the Hollenback mansion. We may wonder at this for the ground floor is so low that you can reach up and touch the ceiling and the second floor is so low that there is but little space above your head to the ceiling.

Judge Hollenback died there in 1829 and his widow lived there several years after his death. The second daughter, Ellen, lived the longest at home. She became Mrs. Welles (Ellen Jones Welles) and was the mother of several children, among them John Welles Hollenback, Edward Welles and C. F. Welles. She was married in 1816; lived a few years in Towanda and for about fifty years in Wyalusing, Pa. Sarah, the youngest daughter, married Jacob Cist and after his death she married

Chester Butler. There were five daughters from her marriage with Jacob Cist. Two of them married Nathaniel Rutter. Mrs. Harrison Wright, Mrs. Andrew T. McClintock and Mrs. Woodbury were the other daughters. There was one son, Chester Butler, who died in young manhood. Mary Ann, the oldest daughter of Judge Hollenback, married John Laning and lived in Owego, N. Y. John Laning is a grandson. George M. Hollenback was the youngest child and the only son. When he became a young man he built a store and residence where the Coal Exchange now stands. He opened the store in 1819.

A. C. Laning lived in this old Hollenback house many years and there John Laning was born. My parents lived there and I was born there.

Here was kept the first postoffice in Wilkes-Barre. It was the oldest frame building in Wilkes-Barre with the exception of one on South River street.

NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY'S NINTH ANNUAL DINNER.

Nearly two hundred descendants of the Pilgrim Fathers sat around the board at the ninth annual dinner of the New England Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania, in the Hotel Terrace, Scranton, Friday evening, Dec. 20, 1895. Representative men from almost every town and city embraced by the society were present and these included some of the brightest men in this part of the State. The dinner was preceded by an informal reception at 7 o'clock, and shortly after 8 the guests took their places. The tables were arranged in a hollow square, while the dining room was tastefully draped with the national colors. This society is celebrated for its menus and this was no exceptional occasion.

It was nearly 10 o'clock when the president Hon. Theodore Strong of Pittston, arose to deliver the opening address. It was a strong and eloquent exposition of the principle which animated the pilgrim fathers when they sundered home ties and sought freedom of worship in a distant and unknown land. It was more than that. It was an earnest plea for the purification of our political system, the uplifting of the people of our cities and towns and the inculcation of sound moral principles among the rising generation. Mr.

and was frequently interrupted with applause.

In the absence of Rev. Dr. G. Parsons Nichols of Binghamton, who found it impossible to attend, Rev. Dr. C. E. Robinson of the Second Presbyterian Church, Scranton, spoke to the toast "New England thought in the religious life of our country." The doctor is a fluent and at times an eloquent speaker, who punctuates his more serious periods with flashes of telling wit. He told many amusing stories that set the tables in a roar, but through his address there was a strong current of deep religious and patriotic feeling expressed in the choicest diction. The greatest blessing ever given to man, in his opinion, is the right to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. If he (the speaker) had absolute sway over the minds of men he would not for a moment think of forcing them to embrace any creed through fear or compulsion. He does believe that we can legislate men into the kingdom of heaven. He would give them the open bible and have every one of them free to interpret it according to his own reason.

Hon. C. D. Foster of this city, who is a capital after dinner speaker, followed. He responded to the toast "New England thought in our jurisprudence" and delivered an unusually able address.

A. J. Colborne, Jr., spoke to the sentiment "New England thought in the history of our nation." The son of "The bald eagle of the Alleghenies" has a silver tongue. He is a natural orator who is rapidly achieving reputation as a public speaker. His effort on this occasion was fully up to the standard of his former achievements in that line.

Theron G. Osborne read an original poem, which was heartily received and highly commended.

E. B. Sturges closed with a fine address upon "New England thought throughout the World." Being somewhat of a globe trotter he had many interesting things to say of the New Englanders and their descendants in foreign lands.

The singing of "The Star Spangled Banner" concluded the evening's festivities.

During the dinner an orchestra rendered such patriotic selections as "Hail Columbia," "America," "Red, White and Blue," "Marsillaise," "Yankee Doodle," "Star Spangled Banner." Included E. H. Chase, C. O. Perkins, H. H.

Harvey, Isaac M. Thomas, I. P. Hand, Calvin Parsons, C. D. Foster, Major O. A. Parsons.

The officers of the society are: Theodore Strong, president; E. B. Sturges, vice president; J. H. Fisher, secretary; A. C. Fuller, treasurer.

Committee of arrangements—Edward L. Fuller, Homer Greene, J. Alton Davis, Archibald F. Law, James H. Fisher.

Trustees — Frank E. Platt, Isaac L. Post, Augustus G. Gilmore.

Letters of regret were received from Thomas B. Reed, speaker of the House of Representatives; William W. Stryker; president of Hamilton college; Geo. S. Kimble, Arlington Heights, N. J., Thomas H. Atherton, Wilkes-Barre; Everett Warren and H. A. Fuller.

DR. BOW MINER.

There doubtless are people in town who will recall the Christmas occasion on which the following stanzas were recited by the late Thomas M. Kesler, then a youngster of perhaps 10 years of age. They were written by the late Dr. Bow Miner, as he was called, for whose lamented father, Dr. Thomas W. Miner, young Kesler was named. The verses are taken from a local paper of the time, and we are sure many of our readers will be glad to see them reproduced:

Lines written for T. M. Kesler and delivered at the M. E. Sunday School celebration on Christmas Day, 1858.

We meet to-day to celebrate the birth
Of Him who stands the Savior of the
earth;

We meet, our hymns and joyous songs to
raise
To Him whose wondrous love demands
our praise.

We come a Sunday school, a little band,
In a far corner of our mighty land,
Yet every village, city, hamlet, town,
Sends forth its ranks to mingle with our
own.

From the far North where wild Ontario
lies,
To where bright Mexico reflects the
Southern skies;
From the Atlantic cities which deck our
Eastern coast
To far off Eldorado, our country's West-
ern boast;

From East to West, from North to
South, we hear
One general outburst rise upon the ear.
Two thousand years have nearly passed
away,
Since Christmas first was hailed a natal
day.

Two thousand years since upon Bethle-
hem's plain
Angels announced to man a Savior's
reign.

The message came not to the wise nor
great
Whose wealth could spread, or wisdom
give it weight;

It came not to the lofty halls of kings,
Where mad'ning mirth or wild debauch-
ery rings;

No learned doctors skilled in legal lore
Received that message which the angels
bore.

Nor Pharisee, or Saducee, entrenched
in hollow pride,
Might hope to bear the tidings adown
Time's coming tide.

Nor came it to the cities, for there the
vices meet,
And want and filth and penury all times
each other greet;
There, nightly, lust and gluttony and
revelling far and near,
And mad men's songs, and harlots' laugh,
fall harshly on the ear.

The towns could not receive it, for tho' of
lesser state,
They bore upon their bosoms the same
great dead'ning weight.
No—it came to the country, where God
sits throned in might,
Where nature shows in purity, and men
stand up for right;

Where stern old mountains rear their
heads, and virgin forests rise,
Bearing our thoughts above the earth,
and pointing to the skies.

Years have rolled by since this took place,
and still the message goes,
Spreading, still wider spreading, until the
bitter foes

Who disbelieved a Savior's love, and ques-
tioned whence He came,
Are throwing down their banners and
yielding to his name.
The earliest proof of truth we have is
through the trials passed,
When in its infancy it stood against the
Roman blast;

Old Nero hurl'd his thunders down, and
Trojan opened wide
The Coliseum's portals to stem the rush-
ing tide.
The fierce Numidian lion was loos'd upon
his prey,
And gladiator swords cut down the faith-
ful day by day.

The catacombs received them when driven
from their homes,
And there, amid those mighty vaults,
have thousands laid their bones.
Yet through all these great trials, the
message safely pass'd,
And Rome's proud eagle falter'd and fell
in dust at last.

Throughout the middle ages, when darkness reigned supreme,
The church alone held up a torch, lit by the Gospel's beam;
That little gleam kept flickering on, tho' slight as finest wire,
And burst in Wickliffe's steady blaze, and Luther's tongue of fire.

In our enlightened modern day the work goes bravely on,
And prince and peasant own the power of God's incarnate Son;
His wisdom and His mercy are themes on every tongue,
And in all lands of Christendom are Jesus' praises sung. E. B. M.

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held at the society's rooms Dec. 13, 1895, with Rev. Dr. Henry L. Jones in the chair, Judge Woodward, the president being detained at a conference with Judge Lynch. Several amendments to the by-laws were proposed and formally acted upon. Eighteen new members were elected as follows:

Resident members—Dr. Charles Long, S. M. Parke, E. W. Mulligan, William F. Hessel, Miss E. H. Rockwell, D. J. M. Loop, Benjamin R. Tubbs, Jesse T. Morgan, Dr. F. Lee Hollister, W. J. Trembath, Charles O. Perkins, Rev. Dr. L. L. Sprague, A. S. Van Wickle, Hazleton; R. B. Brundage, Mrs. E. H. Emory, F. M. Kirby, John A. Turner, D. D. Brodhead, Abram G. Hoyt, Mrs. A. H. Dickson.

Corresponding members—Maj. Harry P. Ward, Columbus, Ohio; William P. Murray, Athens, Pa.

The rapid increase in membership and the unusual interest manifested in the work of the society by members and others during the past year is very flattering to the officers. The society is now in better position than ever before to carry on its work. Among the contributions which were acknowledged by a vote of thanks were a fine old crayon and an antique waffle iron from Mrs. McClintock; the records of the old Triton Fire Company, from Augustus Constine; a seal of the Wilkes-Barre Bridge Co., from George S. Bennett; a portrait of Gen. William Sterling Ross from Hon. Charles A. Miner, and one of the late Sheldon Reynolds, by Mrs. Reynolds; a portrait of Isaac S. Osterhout is also promised the society, as well as one of Judge Conyngham. During the past six months 666 volumes and pamphlets have been received and 55 pictures and other articles.

It was decided to invite the president, Judge Woodward, to deliver the address at the next annual meeting, which will be held on Feb. 11.

It was also decided to request Dr. F. C. Johnson to reprint in the Historical Record from the newspapers of that period the reports of the meetings of the society from 1858 to 1880.

ARNOLD CLARK SISSON.

The subject of this sketch came from good Puritan stock. The first of his family, Richard Sisson, was born in 1608, and died in 1684. The place of his birth and date of immigration to this country have not yet been ascertained. He is believed to have located first at Dartmouth, Massachusetts, and later at Portsmouth, R. I., where he was admitted a freeman May 17th, 1653. The line of descent from this ancestor is as follows:

2. George Sisson, born 1644, married Aug. 1st, 1667, Sarah Lawton, daughter of Thomas Lawton. She died July 5th, 1718. He died Sept. 17th, 1718. He was a slaveholder and willed old negro man Abraham and Wife, Lucy, to his son James.

3. James Sisson, of Portsmouth, R. I., born July 26th, 1690, married April 17th, 1712, Deborah Cook, daughter of Joseph and Susannah (Briggs) Cook.

4. Barnet Sisson, of Portsmouth, R. I., and later of Richmond, R. I., was born January 24th, 1713.

5. Rodman Sisson, of Richmond, R. I., born June 3rd, 1744, married first Ruth Clark, who died December 29th, 1803, second, Hannah Tillinghast, daughter of Pardon Tillinghast, of West Greenwich. He died Sept. 28th, 1810. His children were Clark, George and Barnet.

6. George Sisson, born June 1st, 1774, probably at Richmond, R. I. Married June 2nd, 1796, Esther Lillibridge, who was born Nov. 12th, 1776, and died July 29th, 1836. He died Nov. 14th, 1863. Their children were Ruth and Rodman.

7. Rodman Sisson born June 8th, 1800, probably in Exeter, R. I., married Dec. 23rd, 1819, Ruth Ellis, daughter of Arnold Ellis, of West Greenwich, R. I. He died Dec. 17th, 1876, and his wife Nov. 10th, 1877. Their children were Esther, Arnold Clark, and Frances Mary.

8. Arnold Clark Sisson was born Oct. 8th, 1826, at Hampton, Windham County, Conn. His father, Rodman, and grandfather, George Sisson, moved from Exeter, R. I., to Hampton, Conn., in April, 1821. They bought a farm there and occupied it about ten years, and Rodman's three children were born in the same house on that farm. About 1831 they sold this farm and Rodman bought another farm in the same township, Hampton, Windham County, Conn., about three miles from Hampton Hill and two miles from Jericho. To this farm he moved his family while his father, George, moved to Abington, Luzerne County, Pa., where he had bought a large tract of land of Meredith and Clymer. This farm is still in the possession of the family, and is located in the borough of La Plume, near the post-office and station. The Rodman Sisson farm in Hampton, Conn., adjoined that of Joseph Grow, father of Hon. Galusha A. Grow, and the family intimacy then established has been maintained to this day.

In May, 1836, Rodman Sisson with his wife and three children moved from Hampton, Conn., to Abington, Luzerne County, Pa. They came by water from Norwich, Conn., to Newburg, N. Y., expecting to go by canal as far as Honesdale, Pa., but finding the canal not yet opened they stored their goods at Kingston, N. Y., and came by stage from Newburg to Mount Pleasant, Wayne County. There they rested a day and night with a relative, Jairah Mumford, who kept a hotel at Mount Pleasant. Next day Mr. Mumford hitched his team to a lumber wagon and carried the family to the home of George Sisson in North Abington, now La Plume Borough. Here George Sisson's only daughter, Ruth, who had married Isaac Tillinghast, had settled, and the family were all again united.

Arnold Clark Sisson was ten years old when his father moved with his family to Pennsylvania. His early life was like that of most boys brought up on a farm in a new country. The school facilities at first were meagre. His first teacher was his oldest sister, Esther, a girl fifteen years of age. She taught the school located in that part of Abington then known as Bailey Town, about a mile from her father's farm, and at that time the residence of Squire Benjamin F. Bailey, who later moved to Wilkes-Barre with his family. In 1838 he attended a select school at Bailey Town, kept by Emily Leighton, sister of Andrew Leighton, of Glenburn, and who

afterward married Leonidas R. Green.

In 1843 Madison Academy was organized in the house of Charles Bailey, in what was then known as Abington Center, now the borough of Waverly, and Mr. Sisson attended this school in the winter season, taught by the well-known educator, Gilbert S. Bailey. In 1844 the Academy building was erected and Mr. Sisson was there the school-mate of Hon. G. M. Harding, G. Byron Nicholson, George Smith, and others who attained positions of eminence in later life. Mr. Sisson's oldest sister, Esther, who married Hon. John Stone, kept the Academy boarding house from November, 1844, to August, 1847. After leaving the Academy Mr. Sisson was a clerk in the store of William Thompson, of Carbondale, for a year or two. Then he returned home and worked on his father's farm, and was married there Nov. 25th, 1847, to Isabel Capwell Green, daughter of William Green, and granddaughter of Benjamin Green. He remained on the farm till 1850, when he accepted a position as clerk for the firm of Stone, Patterson & Co. of Abington Centre. Here he remained for a number of years and acquired the habits of business which served him so well in all his subsequent career. Returning to the farm which his father relinquished to his entire care he began to put into practice advanced ideas which his active mind either suggested or readily adapted from the teachings of others. He devoted himself largely to fruit culture, and was the first in his neighborhood to prove that greater returns could be made from a few well cultivated acres than from large farms conducted on the old time plan of general farming. His berries soon acquired a reputation in the markets that made their sale at once easy and profitable. He was never satisfied with present attainment, but continued to experiment with new varieties and modes of culture, thus widening his field of practical knowledge, and helping others with his experience. During the last few years of his life he was connected with the State Board of Agriculture, and as a speaker at Farmers' meetings he made friends and acquaintances throughout many portions of the Central and Eastern part of the State. He became well acquainted with Governors Beaver, Pattison and Hastings, Secretary Edge, and all the members of the State Board of Agriculture, and by all of them he was highly esteemed.

He was a man of a most genial nature, and his memory was stored with anecdotes ever ready to illustrate points under discussion and his facility in telling stories made him a most entertaining companion. His musical talent also added charm to his other powers of entertaining. This talent he inherited from his mother, Ruth Ellis Sisson, and his maternal grandfather, Arnold Ellis, who were both fine singers. In his early married life he conducted singing school in his neighborhood, and helped to spread the love of singing and the cultivation of musical taste among his neighbors. When the Musical Alliance was formed in Lackawanna and Wyoming counties he was its active promoter, and as its President from its inception, 1886 till 1892, and as a member till his death he labored with zeal and love to make it the success it became. He reckoned Dr. Palmer, of New York, the conductor of many of its best concerts, as one of his dearest friends.

Mr. Sisson was also deeply interested in the cause of education. From the foundation of Keystone Academy at Factoryville he was an earnest and efficient worker, contributing both time and money to bring it up to its present efficient standing. He was secretary of the corporation from February, 1873, to February, 1895, when he declined a reelection.

Mr. Sisson was a consistent Christian and a member of the First Baptist Church, Factoryville, Pa. For many years he was superintendent of the Sunday school connected with that church and was clerk of the church from Jan. 1st, 1875, to Jan. 1st, 1890. He was also clerk of the Abington Baptist Association from 1869 till his death, or twenty-six successive years.

Mr. Sisson had, until a short time before his death, enjoyed exceptionally good health. He was a picture of strong vigorous manhood. He stood five feet eleven inches in height, and weighed about 240 pounds. He was troubled at times with rheumatism, but his active, laborious life held that dread disease in tolerable check. When at home he labored on the farm and garden from daylight till dark, and his garden, filled with choice fruits and earliest and best varieties of vegetables, was his special pride and delight. He cared little for wealth and the vanities of the world

and never aspired to political preferment, but accepted, like the good citizen he was, his due share of township and borough offices with their duties and responsibilities. He was also jury commissioner of Lackawanna County for the years 1886, 1887 and 1888.

His judgment and prudence were well esteemed by the courts of Luzerne and Lackawanna counties, and he was frequently appointed on juries of view and commission to determine damages made by public improvements.

Mr. Sisson's death was sudden and caused a great shock to his family and numerous friends and acquaintances. On Saturday, Jan. 11th, 1896, he was returning home from a lecturing tour in the southern part of the State, stopping off at Scranton while waiting for a train and walking on Adams avenue, opposite the Hallstead block, he slipped on the icy pavement and ruptured a large muscle attached to the knee cap. This caused him very little pain, but necessitated close confinement to the house. Here he suffered from a chill with congestion of one of the lungs, and the enforced idleness, so contrary to his usually active habits, brought on a complication of disorders, including defective heart action and death resulted suddenly from heart failure. Thus passed from life to death a kind husband and father, a true and devoted Christian, and a citizen whose place in the State and community it will be hard to fill.

He left to survive him a widow and three children: (1) Edgar Allan Sisson, a farmer, living at Padilla, Skagit County, Washington, on the shore of Puget Sound; he has three children, Pearl, aged eighteen; Nettie, aged fifteen, and Grant, aged ten. (2) George Sisson, who resided with his father and assisted in the management of the farm when not engaged in clerical work at Scranton. At present he is filling a position in the Third National Bank at Scranton. He married Laura M. Dean, daughter of Myron Dean, and they have three children, Robert, aged six, Earl, aged three, and Ruth, aged one. (3) Nettie E. Sisson, wife of A. D. Dean, Esq., a practicing lawyer of Lackawanna County, now residing in the borough of Waverly. They have four children, Carroll Sisson, aged thirteen, Russell, aged eleven, James Davis, aged eight, and Miriam Isabel, aged two years.

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VOL. VI.

NO. 2.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held Feb. 11, 1896. There was a large attendance. Rev. Dr. H. H. Welles offered prayer. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Hon. Stanley Woodward.
Vice presidents, Rev. H. L. Jones, Capt. Calvin Parsons, Col. G. Murray Reynolds, Rev. Dr. Hodge.

Trustees, H. H. Harvey, Edward Welles, Hon. C. A. Miner, S. L. Brown, Richard Sharpe, Jr.

Treasurer, Dr. F. C. Johnson.

Recording secretary, Sidney R. Miner.

Corresponding secretary, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Assistant, Hon. J. Ridgway Wright.
Assistant librarian, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Curators, mineralogy, I. A. Stearns; paleontology, R. D. Lacoe; archeology, Hon. J. R. Wright; numismatics, Rev. H. E. Hayden.

Historiographer, G. B. Kulp.

Meteorologist, Rev. F. B. Hodge, D. D.

Treasurer A. H. McClintock reported receipts for year \$1,255, and balance in treasury \$261.

Rev. H. E. Hayden reported as corresponding secretary. The membership has doubled—there having been 117 persons elected to regular membership and 16 to honorary. Reference was also made to the various accessions in the way of portraits, &c., and to the several papers read. Two of the papers are to be published by the State as part of the archives—those of the late Sheldon Reynolds and Capt. J. M. Buckalew on the Revolutionary forts of Pennsylvania. John W. Jordan of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania is to read a paper on April 10, and one will be read later by Hon. Charles A. Miner on the old mills of Wyoming Valley.

The librarian's report showed 1,133 books and articles received during the year.

A vote of thanks was given to Andrew H. McClintock for ten years' service as treasurer, he being unable to hold the office longer.

A resolution was passed touching the deaths of Mrs. A. T. McClintock and Mrs. Ruth B. Hillard.

Following members were elected: R. H. Laning, Rev. Dr. Parke, O. M. Brandow, Laning Harvey, Judge John Lynch, Archie D. Smith, E. H. Chase, Elizabeth M. Sharpe, Dr. A. C. Shoemaker, Miss Mary Harvey, L. B. Hillard, Dr. O. F. Harvey. To corresponding membership, Bishop J. M. Levering, president of the Moravian Historical Society, and Granville Henry of the same society.

Mr. Hayden said that the society now has portraits of all the former presidents except of Dr. W. F. Dennis and one of him is much desired.

A vote of thanks was extended to R. D. Lacoe for gifts.

It was voted to invite Chief Justice Charles E. Rice to deliver the address at the annual meeting a year hence.

The address of the evening was made by the president of the society, Judge Stanley Woodward, one of the four survivors who founded the society in 1853.

In his introduction the essayist said that no portion of American history is richer in its lights and shadows—its romantic adventures, and its eccentric departures from the ordinary and the common-place, than that of this beautiful valley of Wyoming.

The struggle during the latter part of the eighteenth century between the Connecticut colonists, and the representatives of William Penn, for the possession of the valley of Wyoming, when viewed from a present point of time is, in some of its aspects, most interesting and unique. To comprehend it accurately requires a review of certain historical facts and conditions, which underlie the epoch in which it happened, and disclose its true character. [Here followed such review. Alluding to the mound builders the essayist said:]

What became of these people who preceded the Indians by many centuries, can only be surmised. Suffice it to say, that this continent was peopled by inhabitants who possessed many of the arts of life, before the earliest date of authentic human his-

The Historical Record

Vol. 1

No. 1

The first of the series of papers published in this volume is a paper by Mr. J. H. P. Smith, of the University of Cambridge, England, on the subject of the history of the English language. The paper is a very interesting and valuable contribution to the history of the English language, and is well worth reading. It is a paper which should be read by all who are interested in the history of the English language. The paper is a very interesting and valuable contribution to the history of the English language, and is well worth reading. It is a paper which should be read by all who are interested in the history of the English language.

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tory. They disappeared and in their place appeared a savage people, without culture or art, who have left no monuments, whose remnant is to-day the American Indian of our far West frontier.

It is an interesting fact that no traces of the pre-historic people—reliably such—have ever been found in the Wyoming Valley. It is claimed that in 1769, the remains of an ancient fort were found near Toby's creek in Kingston Township, and another in what is now known as Plains Township. But this claim seems to have been based on the fact that large trees 700 years old, were found within the enclosures. But as medals and coins of the time of King George I were also discovered at the same place—it would seem more reasonable to suppose that, while the trees were old, the forts were of much later date. So far as shown by facts which are well established, it seems clear that this region of country was originally peopled by tribes of Indians, who roamed its surface unrestrained by any law except that of self preservation, and who left no monuments to their memory.

Then followed a review of the historical process of events which resulted in the colonial settlements of this portion of North America, together with a reference to England's conflicting charters which afterwards gave rise to the Connecticut-Pennsylvania controversy. Facetious reference was made to the English policy of making all other interests secondary to colonization. The prodigious capacity of John Bull to swallow and absorb has become a proverb, said the speaker, who touched in pointed manner on the Monroe doctrine, which he described as a national instinct the world is bound to respect.

Coming down to the time of the first settlement in 1762, reference was made to the destruction of the infant settlement by the savages. No attempts at settlement were now made for six years.

During these years the Penn government had not been idle. Commissioners had been appointed by the proprietary government, who had surveyed the lands along the Susquehanna and divided them into two grand manors, the river being the dividing line. The land on the east of the river was called the Manor of Stoke, that on the west the Manor of Sunbury.

The distinction between the two titles of Connecticut on the one side, and of William Penn on the other, is worthy of notice. The former rested on a royal charter granted first to the Plymouth company, and then to the colony. The title of Penn grew out of a direct grant by the king in payment of a debt which the English government owed to Admiral Penn, the father of William, who had been a distinguished officer in the English navy for many years. The settler under the Connecticut title became the absolute owner of the land in his possession. The settler under the Penn government, on the contrary, was merely a tenant, paying a nominal rent and agreeing to hold the land against hostile intrusion. The title of the Connecticut owner was allodial, that is, in the nature of a freehold estate. The Pennamite held his lot by a title resembling that of the feudal tenure of the Middle Ages, rendering services and paying tribute to a sort of a lord paramount—the Quaker William Penn. And both parties claimed to have secured the Indian title.

Thus early in the year 1769 we find the Pennamite and the Yankee located in Wyoming, each claiming the right of possession, and each with a colorable title to the soil. Nothing was left but to fight it out, and thus began the struggle which became that quaint episode in our local history, known as the Pennamite and Yankee war.

Judge Woodward briefly touched on the important events of this internecine strife which raged for thirty years, except during the Revolutionary War, when both parties for the time ceased their local contention that they might engage in the defense of their common country.

As Westmoreland was at this time a Connecticut town, the men who went from here into the Continental Army, were mustered into Connecticut regiments. Two companies commanded respectively by Captains Durkee and Ransom, were promptly raised and mustered into service. The devastation of Wyoming, and the expedition of the mongrel force of Tories and Indians which swept down upon the devoted valley in 1778 from the Canadian frontier would never have occurred, if the gallant Yankees who had volunteered their services to the country under Durkee and Ransom had been permitted, as they should have been, to

stay here and garrison Wyoming. No more touching and heroic poem was ever written in the dry formula of human history than the appeal made by the Wyoming people to their government to send home their husbands and sons to protect them from savage massacre, and the malevolence of the Tory miscreants, who loitered along the edges of the settlement, spying out its weak and vulnerable points, and keeping the enemy well advised of the situation.

The speaker passed over the oft-told tale of the battle of Wyoming with the remarks that the names on the monument are New England names. The Yankee and not the Pennamite fought that battle and ran the gauntlet of the scalping knife of the warrior and the torture of Queen Esther at the Bloody Rock.

When the Revolutionary War was ended and the colonies were free the question as to the ownership of Wyoming again recurred. But it was to be settled not by war and bloodshed, but by the calm judgment of a judicial tribunal, to which Pennsylvania and Connecticut agreed to submit. With this decision, known as the Decree of Trenton, the jurisdiction of Connecticut in Wyoming ceased.

The speaker alluded to the fact that a minority were not willing to submit and how, aided by Ethan Allen of Ticonderoga fame, a formidable effort was made to organize an independent State out of the Wyoming country.

A new civil war seemed imminent, but this new danger was averted chiefly through the sagacious diplomacy of Timothy Pickering, a Philadelphia lawyer of New England origin, who persuaded the people to abandon the new State project, and who was instrumental in securing from the legislature of Pennsylvania several quieting enactments, the most important of which was the compromise law of 1799, under which, and its supplements, the Pennsylvania claimants were compensated, and the equities of the Connecticut settler recognized, where actual settlements had been made prior to the Decree of Trenton, in any of the seventeen townships as originally laid out under the Susquehanna company. To these actual settlers certificates were issued by commissioners appointed for the purpose, which were followed by patents issued to the certificate holders, under the broad seal of

Pennsylvania. And thus ended the Pennamite and Yankee war.

In a well turned peroration Judge Woodward contrasted the aboriginal life with our modern civilization and said that in Wyoming Valley lies buried more real value than can be found anywhere on the globe, within similar territorial limits. Wyoming now is furnishing to the country and to the world heat, and power, and light, as well as history, and poetry, and romance. The shriek of the locomotive awakens now the echoes from the hills which once responded to the Indian war whoop. And here are the representatives of all the nations of the earth. The Yankee and the Pennamite have been merged, and almost lost, in this cosmopolitan composite, which now makes up the mass of our people. To leaven this mass, and to assimilate its many and somewhat discordant elements, into a harmonious and peaceful whole, is the problem of the new era.

DEATH OF MRS. JAMES HUGHES.

Mrs. James Hughes of Luzerne, Pa., died Jan. 13, 1896, after a short illness. Mrs. Hughes was born in Yorkshire, England, February 7, 1816, and was 80 years of age. She came to Wilkes-Barre in 1830 with her mother and John Linskill, her stepfather. Mrs. Hughes was twice married. Her first husband was George Houghton of Holliston, Mass., with whom she had four children—William, living at home, Mrs. Josephine Smith of Denver, Col., Cyrus of Luzerne and Mrs. Sarah Eastwood of Phoenix, Ariz. The children of the last marriage are Mrs. Ellen Evans, deceased, Mrs. Maria Bishop, deceased, George Hughes of Luzerne and Miss Caroline Hughes, who lives at home. Mrs. Hughes lived in the village, now Luzerne Borough, during her entire married life and was well and favorably known by all the older residents. She retained her faculties until the last and took active charge of her household until less than a week before her death.

STATUE OF JESSE FELL.

[Saturday Reporter, Feb. 1, 1896.]

Over a year ago the suggestion was made in this paper that a statue be erected in Wilkes-Barre to Jesse Fell, the first man in this region to discover to what domestic uses anthracite coal could be put. The city has nothing of

that sort to mark the achievements or discoveries of its people. Down in Allentown there is a movement on foot to erect a magnificent bronze statue to David Thomas as being the first man to solve successfully the problem of using anthracite coal to smelt iron ore. One has only to look in the mouths of the immense furnaces of Catasauqua with the tons of molten iron, liquid with heat, to understand the greatness of the work of David Thomas and gaze with admiration upon the monument to his memory. Why not then have something of the sort at the home of anthracite itself? It is understood that a fund has been raised to build a statue to George Washington, a man whose figure has been put up in so many places that it has ceased to have any significance, so common has it become. The late father of his country has been well taken care of at the capitol, which is the proper place for him. Other places, particularly Wilkes-Barre, should have some of their own achievements worked out in marble and bronze.

IN A REMINISCENT VEIN.

[Carbondale Herald, Feb. 10, 1896.]

The fourth chapter headed "Carbondale a City" of J. R. Durfee's reminiscences written twenty years ago reads as follows:

When we commenced our two former letters on Carbondale we little thought our bubbling pen would run on so far, but the Delaware & Hudson Company and the business people of Carbondale are so nearly identified with each other that we see as yet no stopping place. In endeavoring to enumerate in connection with the Delaware & Hudson Company, the business people of Carbondale forty years ago and later (depending entirely upon memory) we find that we have omitted quite a number of prominent citizens, men who were there then and soon after—S. B. Hathaway, teamster, trader and builder, now of Wilkes-Barre. Jesse Williams, remarkable for the kindly feelings which he always seemed to possess, for a number of years a merchant, went to Pittston, where he died much respected and beloved by all. His brother, Joseph Williams, also remarkable for his large heartedness, removed to Wilkes-Barre, where he died some years ago. Mr. Cox, who carried on the bakery business, we have no knowledge of. Mr. Prosser, his son-in-law, died some years ago; the last we knew of his widow she

was living in Pittston. Stephen Rogers, for a number of years carried on the shoemaking and tanning business, a lover of the Church of England, moved to Susquehanna County. Gilbert Burrows, for a number of years one of the justices of the peace in Carbondale, died at Wilkes-Barre; his brother, the harnessmaker, I have no knowledge of. Abraham Peck, for a number of years merchant, teacher and surveyor, is now a wealthy farmer in the western part of Michigan. Hon. S. S. Benedict came to Carbondale when young and engaged as teacher; was afterwards publisher and justice of the peace, and has for a number of years been the successful editor and publisher of the Carbondale Advance, also a member of the legislature. Lewis Higgins was for a number of years a merchant tailor, but of late a very useful man in the company's employ and in the city generally.

PENN PROPERTY CONVEYED.

The recorder's office received Feb. 13, 1896, a deed conveying the remains of the Penn property in this county. The deed bears an English stamp of ten shillings engraved into the paper and it is a reminder of our own war days when all conveyances had to be stamped. The conveyance, which is simply a deed of gift, from father to son, for the nominal sum of \$1, has already been recorded in Philadelphia. Its record here is to preserve a record of the transfer of rights to the manor of Sunbury, alluded to the other evening by Judge Woodward in his address before the Historical Society. This property lies in Plymouth Township, along Harvey's Creek and has never been out of the ownership of the Penn family, descendants of William Penn. The grantee, William Dayald Stuart, is a lineal descendant of William Penn. The Record has on several occasions alluded to the Penn property in this vicinity.

THEY CLAIM OIL CITY.

Harrisburg, Feb. 10, 1896.—Among Governor Hastings's callers to-day were Andrew John and March Pearce, Seneca Indians, one from Southern New York and the other from Warren County, Pa. Pearce is a grandson of Cornplanter, the Seneca chief, and is a cousin of Solomon Obail, who came to the legislature with Andrew John last

winter with a request that legislation be enacted restoring to Cornplanter's descendants all the land on which Oil City now stands. The general assembly appointed a committee which investigated the matter and reported that there was no ground for action.

The Indians brought with them today important letters and papers, the existence of which were unknown last winter, but which have been in Pearce's possession for a long time. They comprise the original treaty between the Senecas and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the original survey and grant of the land claimed, together with a copy of the map and other important documentary evidence. The governor referred the Indians to chief clerk Gearhart of the State Department, who will lay the matter before the secretary of the commonwealth, Reeder.

CORNPLANTER'S HEIRS WERE DEFRAUDED.

Harrisburg, Feb. 11, 1896.—Chief Clerk Gearhart of the State Department to whom was referred the cases of the Seneca Indians, descendants of Cornplanter, who claim the site of Oil City, stated to-day that he has carefully examined the papers in the matter and that there is no doubt but that the Indians have been shamefully treated. He cannot, however, find any ground for action by the State any more than in any other case of sale. Mr. Gearhart explained that the commonwealth granted the land to the Indians by patent, and then its right in the matter ceased. The Indians sold a large portion of valuable land to a man named Connelly and took his note in payment. Not being versed in technical law they had no mortgage made out to them and all they received in payment was the notes. The matter is declared to be deserving of rectification, but it seems to be outside the jurisdiction of the State and Mr. Gearhart is of the opinion that the Indians should bring suit against the present holders and contest the title in the courts of eVnango County. They desire to go to Philadelphia to consult with Herbert Welsh, president of the Indian Rights Society in relation to their case, but they are without the necessary funds.

INDIANS HAVE A GOOD CLAIM.

Harrisburg, Feb. 12, 1896.—Secretary of the Commonwealth Reeder, after seeing the Seneca Indians, who, as descendants of the chief, Cornplanter, lay claim to the site of Oil City, to-day gave them a letter to Herbert Welsh of Philadelphia, president of the Indian Rights Society, in which Mr. Reeder set forth their undoubted claim. The necessary funds to take the Indians to Philadelphia have been raised.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

One of the pleasantest treats of the present winter is the University Extension course of lectures on Representative Americans, at the high school building under the auspices of the pupils, the board contributing to the cost. The lecturer is Dr. Edward T. Devine, who four years ago gave a course of enjoyable lectures on economics.

The assembly room of the Union street building was entirely filled in the evening, the course opening with "Benjamin Franklin." It was supplemented with stereopticon views of portraits of Franklin and of various places and people connected with his life and work. Dr. Devine prefaced his lecture by saying that his Wilkes-Barre experience was exceptional, inasmuch as it was the only centre he had visited where he had been given the assistance of a fully equipped and well managed public library and where the superintendent and school board had made University Extension a distinct feature.

The lecture proper lasted an hour and was a comprehensive view of the life of the distinguished printer, statesman, philosopher, journalist and scientist, who occupied so commanding a place in American history. Regarding the recent strained relations between England and America he thought the former had been slow to recognize what merit the latter and her statesmen possessed. He thought England ought to accord a full measure of greatness to Franklin, Washington and Lincoln as to Pitt, Wellington and Wilberforce. Yet she has a special prejudice against Franklin, who was the first American statesman and citizen to achieve world-wide greatness. There are four great documents in American history—the Declaration of Independence, the alliance with France, the treaty by which England recognized the independence of the colonies and the constitution. And Franklin is the only man whose

name was signed to them all. He was the last man to be forgiven by England for his part in the revolt of the colonies.

Mention was made of his English ancestry, his birth in 1706 and of the fact that at the age of 10 he had read all the books that were obtainable. How his father noticed his bent for reading and apprenticed him to a printer at the age of 12 and how he ran away on account of cruel treatment by his employer, who was his brother. He founded the Philadelphia Library at the age of 25. Ten years later, when he had become a publisher, he started a monthly magazine but it failed. All this time he was busy in the matter of various internal improvements for Philadelphia, as he was distinctively an economist or utilitarian. His great effort was to surround men with influences that would make them more comfortable and therefore happier. He was derided as the bread and butter philosopher, but he accepted the derision and believed that food and clothes were of more importance to people than champagne and ices. He believed in working hard and avoiding temptation. He was not a Christian, but he was a believer in one God, and he has left on record numerous prayers which he was wont to offer to the Supreme eBing for help in life's struggle. His religion was not of a spiritual character, but it concerned itself rather with man's temporal welfare and comfort. His Poor Richard almanac was of the greatest service in educating the people to industry, thrift, morality and frugality, and it probably had wider circulation than any other publication which has ever been printed. He ever sought to promote the public interest. He discovered electricity. He published the best newspaper in the colonies, though Rev. Cotton Mather denounced it as the vehicle of all that was vile. He organized the postoffice system. He introduced into Philadelphia the paving, cleaning and lighting of the streets. He invented a stove. He advocated ventilation of public halls and houses. He established the first school in Philadelphia, was a leading spirit in the University of Pennsylvania and the Philadelphia hospital, and did numerous other beneficent things which the lecturer enumerated. His distinguished services in the Revolution were enumerated—his fruitless effort to win England to the cause of colonial liberty after a residence of ten years there and his insulting treatment at last by the Privy

Council; his success in winning France to the cause of the colonists, thus turning the scale in favor of victory; his wonderful influence in successfully financiering the war by borrowing powers, his equipping ships and directing naval movements while in France; his service in the Continental Congress,—all these and numerous other important facts were graphically related by the speaker.

DEATH OF REV. THEOPHILUS JONES.

After an illness of nearly two years, during the last five months of which he was confined to his bed, Rev. Theophilus Jones, the oldest Welsh preacher in the United States, died Feb. 13, 1896, of general debility and paralysis, aged 86 years, at the home of his son, attorney D. M. Jones, 51 Sullivan street. Deceased was born in January, 1810. He survived his wife a little over two years. After her death at Kingston he gave up housekeeping and has since resided with his son. He was one of the powerful preachers of his day, and when he warmed to his subject, or as the Welsh put it, "in the hwyl," he always carried the audience with him spell-bound. He was in early youth apprenticed to the weaving business and worked as a weaver at Pontmorlais, Merthyr Tydvil, Wales, but being of a religious turn of mind he studied hard and was converted at a Cymanfa of the Welsh Baptist denomination in 1827, at Caerphilly, under the preaching of the late Christmas Evans, who was one of the greatest preachers of the century in Wales. He was to have been baptized by this celebrated divine, but on account of the latter's age, he appointed a younger minister to do it in his presence.

Deceased was a preacher at 17 years of age and was ordained when he was 20 years of age, and up to the time of his illness was a worker in the vineyard of the Master. He married in 1843, and took charge of the Welsh Baptist church in the metropolis for several years. He received a call to Morans Hook, Chester County, and later to Scranton and Minersville, Pa., coming to Wilkes-Barre in 1870, where he became pastor of the First Welsh Baptist congregation, which then worshipped in Sutton's hall on Public Square. He was then in his prime and his eloquence as a preacher soon filled the hall with hearers and the member-

ship so increased that they had to seek larger quarters. Senator Williams built a hall over a store at the corner of Sherman and Market streets, and the church held services in it for several years. This also became too small and a handsome church was built on Sheridan street. He received a call to a new church at Edwardsville, which also grew under his pastorate. He was known and had calls to hold special services all over the country.

He was married prior to his leaving Wales to Miss Morgan of Rhosmean, Llandilo, Wales. She was the sister of Col. Dr. John Morgan of the British navy, who on one occasion visited his sister in this city.

DESCENDANT OF JOHN ALDEN.

The following clipped from a Philadelphia paper, will interest many people in this section: "The old house of the Aldens, at Danbury, Mass., built about 1650, is now occupied by the ninth John Alden in direct descent from the John whose pretty loveliness is so well known. He has a little daughter, Priscilla Mullins, too, says a writer in the Boston Transcript, but her brother the seventh John Alden, was killed by lightning last summer, so the line of John Aldens is now broken." At Russell Hill are now living descendants in the direct line from the Mayflower John, and John is the name of the head of this family also. He is a descendant of Prince Alden, who settled here several generations ago, and the name John is not likely to die out in the family. Our John is one of our substantial farmers. —[Tunkhannock correspondence of Wilkes-Barre Record, Feb. 17, 1896.]

HOW A CANAL WAS BUILT.

R. C. Ettinger of Allentown has in his possession a copy of the Aurora, published in Philadelphia Feb. 1, 1894, ninety-two years ago. It contains an interesting advertisement, which shows the manner in which the money was raised to build the Lehigh Canal. The advertisement reads as follows: "Positively will commence at the State House in this city, on the second of Monday of March next, Lehigh Navigation Lottery, second class, \$5,000 the highest prize. The prizes will be paid 30 days after its conclusion, of which public notice will be given. Such as are not considered as relinquished for the benefit of the navigation.

"The managers depend principally upon the proceeds of the lottery for finishing the navigation of the Lehigh. This will open an intercourse by water to Philadelphia of about 400 miles, including only 12½ miles portage near its junction with the Susquehanna at Wilkes-Barre, thereby forming a new source of trade, affording a plentiful supply of coal, lumber, etc., the advantages of which will be immense; and an easy conveyance to the owners of the lands and farmers in the vicinity by which they can send their produce to market. Tickets can now be had at \$5 and on the 20th they will be \$5½." Signed William Blackburn, Edward Stow, James Gil-entworth, Michael Doran, George Taylor.

The prizes ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 are then mentioned and the close is: "The prizes are subject to a deduction of 15 per centum. The prizes in the last class of the Easton Delaware Bridge, St. Augustine Church Lottery, etc., will be received in payment. The Holy Trinity Church and the Bustletown Academy Lotteries will commence drawing soon after the conclusion of this."

Besides the above the extra contains nearly four pages of the names of properties that were seized by the State as the properties of John Nicholson of Luzerne County.

THE FIRST TO TUNNEL FOR COAL.

[Wilkes-Barre Record, Feb. 19, 1896.]

Mrs. J. D. Bachman has returned from Watertown, where she attended the funeral of a relative, Mrs. Harriet B. Mast, wife of Thomas Mast, and daughter of the late Freeman Thomas. The latter in the year 1828 commenced driving the "Grand Tunnel" of Plymouth into the mountain side, with the purpose of striking the coal. This was the first experiment of tunneling through rock in the Wyoming Valley. He labored assiduously for several years before the object was accomplished. His neighbors regarded the enterprise as Utopian, but amidst all obstacles, and against the counsel and advice of his friends to abandon the tunnel, he moved steadily and persistently on, and after three or four years of persevering labor, and with his credit almost sunk, he struck the big Red Ash vein.

In the toiling years which he devoted to the excavation of the tunnel he constantly encountered the opposition of his friends; and many of them, failing in argument to convince him of what

they called his error, would laugh at and deride him, as the last means of driving him from his determined purpose. But to all this he meekly submitted, still holding on to his own convictions, and finally proved to them all that the error was with them and not with himself.

Freeman Thomas used to predict that they (meaning the people of Plymouth) "would live to see 50,000 tons of coal shipped yearly from the Plymouth basin!" If the old gentleman had said 50,000 weekly he would have approached more nearly the result.

Freeman Thomas lived to a good old age. He died in 1867 at his home in Northumberland County in his 88th year.

SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812.

Philadelphia, Feb. 18, 1896.—The Society of the War of 1812 held its annual meeting in Independence hall to-day. About forty members were present. The following officers were elected: President, John Cadwalader; vice presidents, Col. John Biddle Porter, Appleton Morgan, LL. D., Brig. Gen. Adolphus W. Greely, U. S. A.; Capt. William Bainbridge Hoff, U. S. N.; Capt. Henry Hobart Bellas, U. S. A.; register, Edward Rutledge Shubrick; treasurer, Adam Arbuckle Stull; secretary, James Varnum Peter Tuaner; assistant, Henry Douglas Hughes. This evening Cyrus K. Remington, the historian, read a paper on "The Fort of Lake Erie."

THE LATE JOSEPH ANDERSON.

[W.-B. Leader, Feb. 24, 1896.]

In an humble way Joseph Anderson, whose recent death at Harvey's Lake has been noted, was possessed of widely diversified accomplishments, accomplishments, too, which required not a little natural talent and a thorough premier bear hunter of this region and bear hunting and trapping was his chief delight during the winter season. During the past season he trapped and brought home alive no less than four black bears, and shot as many more. As a deer hunter, too, he was unusually city of that noble animal in our forests. As a fisherman he was an authority, and when "Old Joe Anderson" couldn't catch fish from Harvey's Lake they were not biting for anyone else. He loved to have about him, alive, the trophies of the chase and of

his piscatorial skill, and for that purpose built a large pond in his door yard where he kept brook trout, lake trout, black bass and pickerel, which he delighted to feed and watch grow. He also erected a large bear pen wherein he kept the bear he brought home alive.

Mr. Anderson was also a great wild bee hunter and always had on hand a large supply of wild honey as the reward of his peculiar skill in that direction.

He is best known to Wilkes-Barreans as the "tree-remover from the Harvey's Lake." Thousands of the beautiful maple and elm trees that adorn and provide shade for our streets and front yards were removed and planted by him.

In 1887 he entered the Methodist ministry and by his indefatigable efforts a little church was finally erected at the west corner of the lake, where he dispensed to his humble flock of God's holy word.

For many years he was a justice of the peace in Lake Township, and a search of the criminal records will prove that both as a teacher in the house of the Lord and as a mediator in the house of justice he was alike successful. So great was the confidence of his neighbors that he was generally called upon as a neighbor, rather than as a justice of the peace, to adjust their differences. He was a school director in the district for many years, and also supervisor. He was also a contractor and builder in a small way, and took contracts to fill ice houses and to build water-walls, boat landings and boat houses about the lake.

Preacher, justice, supervisor, school director, contractor, fisherman, bear hunter and bee hunter, he was a "man of many parts" in the vicinity where he lived, and was equally successful in all. In a number of ways, few men of this section are better known than Mr. Anderson.

PATRICK HENRY.

[W.-B. Record, Feb. 27, 1896.]

The second lecture in the University Extension course was given by Professor E. T. Edvine in the high school building before a large audience. Patrick Henry was described, in addition to his being the greatest orator of modern times, as the originator of political bossism in this country. He was not a great American, but he was a great Virginian. In early life he was lazy

and unbusiness-like so that he made a total failure in storekeeping and farming and at 23 was a bankrupt. This was the end of his failures, however, and henceforth he was to achieve great triumphs and after a month's study of law he was able to pass examination so brilliantly that he gained admission to the bar. Although for three years thereafter he assisted his father in keeping a tavern and spent a great deal of time in hunting and fishing, he was able to build up a lucrative country practice. At the age of 27 he was brought into great prominence by reason with his connection with the Parsons suit. This was the most interesting suit in all the annals of Virginia, and although Patrick Henry was made famous by it, it did not reflect the greatest credit on him, a she was on the unrighteous side of the cause, by reason of its injustice to the Virginia clergy, who were deprived of what was their due. In this cause he sounded an early alarm against the aggressions of Great Britain, but none the less was injustice done to the clergy. Under the influence of Henry's eloquence the king's veto was defied and treason was disguised as a legal remedy. Virginia's act was the States until they had earned the contempt of countries of Europe, which had befriended them. Those early years were dark ones. There was not a united demand for separation. In Pennsylvania Howe's army had no trouble to get all the food it wanted while Washington's army was starving and freezing at Valley Forge.

The second great event in his life was his moving of resolutions against the stamp act of 1765. This was the precipitation of the crises, the beginning of the Revolution.

The third great event was in 1775, when he moved that Virginia be put into a state of defense. Strangely enough there had been no declaration of war, but this speech of Patrick Henry's was practically such a declaration of war, and he became pre-eminently the patriot, the revolutionist, the separatist. Henry as having given greater importance to liberty than to union. He was a revolutionist, but he did not represent stable government. On the contrary he reflected what is the darker stood for State sovereignty as against the centralization of federalism. The union had to contend with the turbulent, anarchistic elements which the revolution set loose. The financial vice of the revolution was repudiation of debts, both public and private. There was a

lawlessness and recklessness which in a loose colonial society needed no encouragement at all. There was an exceedingly low social vitality. The union had no proper organs. The newspapers of Pennsylvania libeled Washington in villainous manner. Their libellous utterances on Washington make the newspapers of to-day seem tame to an extreme degree. The great faults in the public affairs of the United States at this time, as Sumner says, were indolence, negligence, absence of business-like system and carelessness as to credit. Henry represented these faults. The speaker eulogized Henry as a pattern in his domestic and private life.

◆ ◆ ◆ AN OLD PAPER.

[Reprinted from the Record of Aug. 30, 1875.]

We hereby acknowledge the receipt of an old copy of the Luzerne Federalist, dated Wilkes-Barre, Friday, May 22, 1807, from C. S. Coburn, of Tioga Centre, Tioga County, N. Y.

The paper was published by Charles Miner, Esq., and printed in old style small pica type. The following notice appears at the head of the editorial column:

"A disappointment in not receiving paper this week obliges me to print on a writing paper sheet. Advertisements and a quantity of other matter are unavoidably omitted until our next."

The act establishing the Wilkes-Barre Academy is published and designates Rev. Ard Hoyt, Lord Butler, Jesse Fell, Matthias Hollenback, William Ross, Rosewell Welles, Ebenezer Bowman, Samuel Bowman, Charles Miner, John P. Arndt, Arnold Colt, Peleg Tracy, Mathew Covell, Joseph Slocum, Benjamin Perry, Thomas Graham and Thomas Dyer, the first trustees of the new institution.

The paper is faded to almost the color of manilla wrapping paper but the printing is as bright and clear as the day it was printed, showing that the ink used at that time was of a good quality and there has been no chance to improve upon it since.

THE KENNEDY FAMILY.

[Read at the meeting of the Wyoming Commemorative Association, July 3, 1895.]

My grandparents participated in the events which we commemorate to-day. They came from Derry Township in

1775, then Northumberland, but now Columbia County, Pa. There were three brothers, Samuel, John and Thomas Kennedy, who bought adjoining lands in Wyoming Valley on which they settled in 1775. Samuel and his wife and five children were murdered, scalped and burned with their house by the Indians, at the time of the massacre.

Thomas, the youngest brother, was a single man, and was taken prisoner by the British and Indians and carried to Canada, and his relatives saw him no more. Rev. Jacob Kennedy, a Baptist minister, who died in South Eaton, Wyoming County, Pa., a few years ago, was a grandson of this Thomas Kennedy.

Just previous to the sad events which we commemorate to-day, there was a cry made that the Indians were coming, and the people were warned to flee for their lives. My grandfather, John Kennedy, took a wagon load of his household goods and conveyed them to a hill and left them with an acquaintance, some miles distant toward the intended place of retreat; then started back to bring his wife and three children. It was in the afternoon, and during his absence his wife began hoeing a patch of corn which he had ploughed in the forenoon, and an Indian spy fired at her from an ambush and the rifle ball struck the handle of her hoe. Dropping the hoe and flying to the house, she hastily caught up her infant daughter and ran toward their wheatfield, followed by her other two children. The field was large and the wheat stood tall and thick and afforded them a place of concealment for the night. Her children were Samuel, aged 5 years; Jane, aged three years, and Mary, aged 9 months. As night came on the Indians gathered about and burned their house and barn, and murdered their neighbors. The sky was bright with the flames of the burning buildings and the air was filled with the shrieks of the dying people, and the terrible war-whoops of the fiends who were reveling in a carnival of blood.

It was evening when my grandfather returned, and when he came in sight of his house and saw that it was on fire and surrounded by merciless savages, he supposed that his family were all murdered. He concealed himself till morning. As daylight approached the Indians had departed, and he cautiously crept to the spot where his house had stood and examined the ashes, search-

ing for the remains of his wife and children. But finding none, there came into his crushed and aching heart a gleam of hope that they might yet be alive; but this hope was soon followed by the fear that they might be prisoners in the hands of the savages. So, in great agitation and fear, he walked up and down, weeping and calling aloud, "Betsy, Betsy;" and she knew his voice and answered from the wheatfield and came to him, bringing the three children; and in a moment his loved ones were again in his embrace. But sad as well as joyful was the meeting. They were not safe and could not tarry by the charred remains of their once peaceful home, but had to leave everything and flee for their lives.

Weeping for joy, and trembling with fear, they hastened to the place where the horses and wagon were concealed; then went for the few articles left with the friends on the hill; then hastily began their dreary flight over the mountains in the direction toward York County, Pa. During their sad journey their anguish and sufferings were great; but being provided with a vehicle and team of horses, they traveled with much less fatigue than many in their company, who fled on foot, some of whom perished in the wilderness.

These fugitives from unhappy Wyoming, paused in their journey on the southern border of Pennsylvania, and purchasing land, they settled in what is now Adams County, where they raised a large family, and peacefully ended their days.

Their home in the Wyoming Valley was nearly paid for, and was, I presume, located between Wilkes-Barre and Pittston on the east side of the Susanna but they never returned to claim it. They were Scotch-Irish Protestants, and my grandmother's maiden name was Elizabeth Wiley. My grandfather, John Kennedy, served his country in the American Army in the Revolutionary War; and there is a tradition in the family that he had been drawn away from Wyoming into the army and was absent on duty at the time of the Indian troubles, and had reached home just in time to rescue his family from destruction. The little boy, Samuel, who had lain hid in the wheat field all night with his mother, died May 11, 1866, aged nearly 93 years, at his residence in Huntington Township, Adams County, Pa. He remembered that in going to the place where the horses and wagon were concealed in the woods,

his sister, Jane, had fallen from a foot-log into the stream and was nearly drowned. That stream, I suppose, was Mill Creek.

Around these facts, heretofore unpublished, there exists an interesting history of one hundred and twenty years. Much of this history is in my possession, and more could be recovered from my relatives who are numerous in Southern Pennsylvania.

S. S. Kennedy, Waverly.

INFORMATION DESIRED.

Information is desired concerning Jesse Allen, who settled in Wysox Township, Bradford Co., Pa., before 1787. He was a revolutionary soldier. It is said that he enlisted in New Jersey, and served throughout the war. Mr. Craft's "History of Bradford County" speaks of him on page 455.

WALLIS FAMILY.

[W.-B. Record Feb. 25, 1896.]

John Jacob Wallis married Elizabeth Lukens, daughter of John Lukens, the surveyor general of Pennsylvania. They appear to have gone to Wilkes-Barre—or some of their children were there. The names of the children of John Jacob Wallis and his wife Elizabeth were:

1. John Lukens Wallis, m. Catherine ——. He died in 1863.
2. Grace Wallis, b. 1777; m., 1797 Evan Rice Evans.
3. Sarah Wallis, m. Daniel Smith.
4. Elizabeth Wallis, m., 1804 John Evans. They had seven children born in Wilkes-Barre. She d. 1817.
5. Gaynor Wallis, m., 1801 Enoch Smith.
6. Thomas Wallis (M. D.), m. ———
7. Joseph T. Wallis, b. 1789; m., 1813 Catherine Schaffer.

Where did this Wallis family come from? John Jacob Wallis may have been a surveyor also.

The John Evans (husband of Elizabeth) named above came from Clay Creek, Maryland, and was probably a Baptist. It looks as if it was the Evans family and not the Wallis family who lived in Wilkes-Barre.

WALLIS FAMILY.

[W.-B. Record March 20, 1896.]

The person making inquiry through a recent issue of the Record can obtain

some of the desired information in the last number of Dr. Egle's "Notes and Queries," vol. 2, No. 6, page 316.

Evan Rice Evans (Evan, John, John), (b. 1763, d. at Sunbury 1813) was a prominent lawyer. In 1797 he m. Miss Grace Wallis (b. 1777, d. 1804.) Had three children:

Elizabeth, b. 1798, m. Henry Shippen.
Margaret, b. 1800, m. Rush Reese.
Sarah, b. 1802, m. Gen. Hugh Brady.
John Evans (Evan, John, John), was a brother of Evan Rice Evans. The two brothers married Wallis sisters. John m. Elizabeth 1804 and moved to Wilkes-Barre where he practiced law. Issue:
Grace, b. 1805, m. Morgan T. Rhees.
Elizabeth Margaret, b. 1807, m. John Cooper, Jr.

Mary, b. 1809, m. William Erwin.
Thomas Wallis, b. 1811, m. Annie D. Homar.
Margaret Garrett, b. 1813, m. Miller Fox.

Cassandria, b. 1815, died unm.
Jane, b. 1817, m. Dr. Henry L. Aitken.
All the above children were born in Wilkes-Barre.

Further information of this Wallis family given in "Notes and Queries," 4th series, vol. 1, p. 399.

EARLY NORTH BRANCH SURVEY.

During the month of January, 1896, the Wyalusing Rocket published an interesting series of articles that will add materially to the historical information concerning the early settlement of the portion of the north branch of the Susquehanna all the way from Danville to Athens. It appears that A. E. Cooper of Coopers Plains, N. Y., discovered among the old papers of his father, the late John Cooper, the notes and journals of an old-time surveyor, Jesse Lukens, the son of John Lukens, the surveyor-general of Pennsylvania, prior to the Revolution, who was the great-great-grandfather of Mr. Cooper. These surveys were made in 1774, and Mr. Cooper presented a copy to Rev. David Craft of Lawrenceville, Pa., who caused them to be published in the Rocket. Mr. Craft added many notes which will be found scattered throughout the history enclosed in brackets.

Mr. Cooper is entitled to the thanks of the local historians in bringing to light these valuable records. Jesse Lukens, who was one of Plunkett's invaders, was killed at the lower end of Wyoming Valley by the Connecticut settlers Dec. 25, 1775, who were then con-

testing the title of Pennsylvania to the lands occupied by them.

The Record hopes to make some extract in later issues. In a letter to the Wyalusing editor Mr. Craft, who is the leading historian of the upper Susquehanna region, says:

Dear Sir—I enclose the greater portion of the Jesse Lukens field notes. I would have given a good deal to have had them when writing the history of Bradford County. They establish several important historical points. (1.) That the Pennsylvania government did make actual surveys of all the best land in the valley of the North Branch as far north as Towanda. (2.) The estimated value of the land surveyed. (3.) The location of a number of the early settlers, as John Seacord, Moses Mountz, the Phillipses, etc., and established the fact of their being on the ground in 1774. (4.) The signification of the Indian name of many of the streams. I have made some notes on this latter subject as I came to them. Yours truly,

David Craft.

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The officers for 1896 are as follows:

President, F. E. Platt; first vice president, A. W. Dickson; second vice president, W. F. Smith; the officers and the following to constitute the board of trustees, W. D. Kennedy, E. B. Sturges, B. H. Troop and L. M. Gates; recording secretary, J. H. Fisher; corresponding secretary, W. A. Wilcox; treasurer, J. W. Phillips.

Several letters have passed between Mrs. Dr. Hollister and the curator in regard to the purchase of the interesting Hollister collection of Indian relics.

FRONTIER FORTS.

Readers of the Record are familiar with the fact that the State, in order to put in permanent and convenient form all the available historical material relative to the Revolutionary forts of Pennsylvania, undertook such publication. The State was divided into sections and the following commissioners were appointed to prepare the matter, they all being men of recognized standing as investigators of local history:

The region between the north and west branches of the Susquehanna, including Fort Augusta at Sunbury, John M. Buckalew.

The Wyoming Valley region, Sheldon Reynolds.

The region between the Delaware and the Susquehanna rivers, south of the Blue Mountains, Henry M. M. Richards of Reading.

Juniata and Cumberland valleys, Jay G. Weiser.

The work is in two large, handsome volumes of over 600 pages each. It is enriched with numerous illustrations in colors, and there are also valuable maps. In the portion devoted to Wyoming Valley there is a colored picture of Forty Fort as it was during the Revolution and of Stewart's block house in Hanover Township.

The subjects occupy variable space. Wyoming Valley has only forty pages while Capt. Buckalew's section has 68, Mr. Weiser's 150 and Mr. Richard's 350, but the giant share is awarded to Western Pennsylvania which occupies an entire volume.

The sections prepared with great care by the late Sheldon Reynolds and by Capt. Buckalew were fully reported in the Record at the time they were read before the Historical Society.

Both these sections will appear in the published proceedings of the society, the State having furnished sufficient printed sheets for that purpose.

The two volumes contain a vast amount of history, much of it heretofore unpublished.

MEMORY OF WAR TIMES

War memories are recalled by a poster shown in Hagenbaugh's window on North Franklin street. It is as follows:

LUZERNE REGIMENT!

Rally [eagle's picture] For Our Country.

CAPTAIN W. J. HARVEY

Will Recruit a Company for This Regiment Now in Camp at Harrisburg.

Subsistence will be furnished from date of enrollment. Uniforms provided upon arrival at Camp. Recruiting offices for this Company will be found at Wilkes-Barre, Kingston and Plymouth.

MEN ENLISTING

In this regiment are entitled to all THE BENEFITS of the Acts of Assembly of Pennsylvania, in addition to the pay, rations and bounty provided by the United States.

WM. J. HARVEY,
September 18, 1861. Captain.

ABOUT OLD WILKES-BARRE.

[Daily Record, Feb. 15, 1896.]

To sit down occasionally and muse over by-gone days, especially those that are fraught with pleasant memories, is a pastime that is always agreeable. Particularly is it so when thinking of old Wilkes-Barre,—the happy homes of those with whom I was familiar—its grand men and women—the boys who were companions of my youth, and the girls, God bless them, whose frolicsome glee, so often made life a bright and beautiful reality; and I never think but with feelings akin to love for the old town. There should be no patience with those who would speak disparagingly of Wilkes-Barre. Though our lines may run differently in some directions, it should beget nothing but a generous spirit of rivalry. Anything more is wholly uncalled for. We were children of the same mother county—Old Luzerne's great men and their achievements were ours, and though separated now by a legal line, social ties need not be severed, and we should rejoice that the old borough has ripened into a substantial and prosperous city, dominated by a conservative, cultured and hospitable people.

The time of which I write is between forty and fifty years ago. There was no railroad to get there, hence I will take a seat on top of the old four-horse coach and with my visiting friend once more live over again, a trip down through the beautiful Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys. The home of old Uncle Jo Griffin is soon passed, presently coming to Capt. Albert Felts who lived on the brow of the steep hill which the drivers always dreaded. On we go through the Atherton neighborhood, down past the Knapps, John Stewart and Erastus Smith, finally reining up in front of the well known tavern of Charles Drake. Here a stop for a few minutes to give the horses a slight rest, and some water. "All aboard" is heard, the driver cracks his whip and away we go down by Babb's store, the Marcys, Browns and on top of the hill to the left the farm house of that well-known citizen Zenas Barnum. Soon the head of the North Branch is reached, where Tom Benedict has been making quite extensive improvements. Dr. Curtis's stone house is passed and presently we are stopping by the Sax tavern in Pittston. The mail bag is left at the postoffice to be overhauled;

nevertheless the stay is quite limited and the driver hurries on. Acting in that capacity was either Harvey Nash or John Kennedy; than whom no two men were better known or more respected between Carbondale and Wilkes-Barre. Pittston was a straggling village. The Butler colliery was in operation; but whoever left at this time, and perchance should return in 1896, would scarcely find a land mark in the flourishing and go-ahead city. We probably take the river road, pass Blanchard's, Courtright's, the Searles's, Stark's, all noted families; then stop at Sperring's tavern to refresh the horses. Again under way, the old Hollenback mill is passed, and the big hill climbed, and in a short distance we are on the streets of Wilkes-Barre. We have been on the coach between three and four hours and gladly alight at the Phoenix Hotel, kept by that prince of landlords, P. McC. Gilchrist. Here was always a welcome for the traveler. If one wanted a good bed to sleep on, or good things to eat, here they were. Even the thirsty soul could slack its thirst with old rye or cognac, and Schnapps of the very best quality. How well I recall that wooden structure standing there on the banks of the Susquehanna, and from whose porches there was such an extended and beautiful view of Wyoming Valley. Here frequently congregated some of the ablest men of the town, my friend notices one now, whose fine appearance and address evidences no ordinary man. He is entertaining a coterie of congenial spirits. That is the popular and whole-souled Henry M. Fuller, an able man and good lawyer, whose residence and offices is just below the hotel. But we must go out and take a stroll about the town. A short distance on the river and we turn to go up Market street. Here on the corner is the Hollenback store, old fashioned, but chuck full of merchandise. Do you see that short, heavy set man coming down the street? That George M. Hollenback, by far the wealthiest man of the town. on this very spot his ancestors traded with the Indians and laid the foundation for the immense wealth which his son has so wisely managed. With it all he is good, universally respected, and one of the most affable of men. On either side of the street we notice little else than low wooden buildings. Now my friend's attention is arrested by a large, remarkable looking man who is walking

down on the other side. There is a man whose big proportions are not confined to the physical development. His intellect is massive. It is George W. Woodward, one of Wilkes-Barre's oldest lawyers and now president judge of one of the interior districts. He is undoubtedly returning to his home so cosily situated on the side of the hill below Kingston. That young man who is waving a salutation to me is his son Stanley. He must be home on a vacation from college where he stands among the first of his class. And here comes another fine looking gentleman, leisurly walking down towards his office, which we have just passed. This is the 'eloquent and aggressive Col. Hendrick B. Wright, one of the best of jury lawyers. He is paying a great deal of attention to politics and will no doubt be heard from in the national legislature. There, do you see coming towards us that small, black eyed man? It is William C. Gildersleeve one of the successful merchants, notorious as a great abolitionist, and who not a long time ago was visited with attempted personal violence on that account. Here we are at the Public Square, and on which, directly facing Market street, is the old market house. Close by is the Academy. That large wooden building with the tall spire is the Methodist Church. Opposite on the southerly side stands the court house; a very ordinary structure you say for a rich county. On the easterly side is the stone house where the county records and offices are kept. Around this square are most of the shops and business places, and we will walk on the northerly side up as far as Main street and step into Steele's new brick hotel. There is sheriff George P. Steele, one of the most indefatigable and shrewdest of Luzerne's Democratic politicians. His amiability and kindness of heart are proverbial. Just above the hotel is the hardware store of Ziba Bennett, another of the rich merchants, one of the most reliable and estimable men of the town. There he stands in the door and that young man who is talking with him is his confidential clerk, Charles Parrish. Over on the other corner is the residence of Lord Butler, one of the first citizens of the place. Down about half way on the easterly side of the square and we come to Maj. S. H. Puterbaugh's hotel. He is a very jolly and popular landlord. Below the square on East Market street

stands the jail. Such an institution is never an inviting place, and this one in particular we will give a wide berth. Do you see that three story brick on the South side of the square? We notice it because such buildings are scarce. It is the residence of Joseph Slocum, one of the oldest and most respected residents. He was a boy when the Indians invaded the town and carried off his little sister Frances, about whom there is such a romantic history. We pass along and see just turning the corner down South Main an old man bent with the weight of ninety years. This is the old lawyer, Thomas Dyer, whose opinions on questions of law are universally repeated by the attorneys. He carries us away back into the past. Born before the revolution, he recollects distinctly the birth of our Republican government. What a world of memories cluster about that old man. Who is that coming towards him and taking his hand with a friendly grasp? That is Senator William S. Ross just coming up from his well cultivated fields but little more than a quarter of a mile below, where he lives like a prince.

Court seems to be in session and we will step in. Not a very imposing room you say nevertheless it has been the scene of many an intellectual contest that would have done honor to any court room on earth. Presiding there is that loved and eminent jurist, John N. Conyngham. Evidently there is an important case on, for sitting at one of the tables you see Harrison Wright, Warren J. Woodward and Andrew T. McClintock. At the other Judge Oristus Collins, Lyman Hakes and Edmund L. Dana. You can scarcely get together a greater array of legal giants. Undoubtedly McClintock on the one side, and Judge Collins on the other, are there for the wise and conservative counsel. Now watch Hakes; he has made an objection and is urging it with all the argumentative ability of which he is so complete a master. The judge is evidently inclined to assent to his proposition. But wait, Harrison Wright is to reply, and if there is any best lawyer at this bar this is the man. You can see that he feels that he is right. Those black eyes peering out from under his gold glasses are flashing fire as he flails away at the position of his antagonist and the seeming judicial acquiescence, until an array of facts and authorities are presented that are irresistible. Now you

will see the action of a great judge. Never influenced by preconceived notions or by vehement language addressed, he calmly sees the error and is man enough to acknowledge it. However interesting, we cannot tarry here; but before leaving will take a peep into the bar office where wit, hilarity and law very frequently hold high carnival. Sure enough, we are lucky, for there sit among others Garrick M. Harding, Henry M. Hoyt and Byron Nicholson, a galaxy of brilliant young lawyers. Garrick, I call him that because everybody else does. He is named after that great lawyer Garrick Mallory and has set out to add fame to the reputation of his distinguished prototype. He is telling a story, at which he is a great adept. It must be a good one, for it has provoked a ghostly smile on the face of Nicholson, and Hoyt laughs immoderately. That oldish gentleman sitting back there is Volney L. Maxwell, one of our most reliable office lawyers. Not a muscle of his face moves, but if you should perchance see him on the street to-morrow, more than likely he would break out into a hearty laugh; and it would all be over the story to which he has just been listening. This would be a good place to stay, but time forbids. Out upon the street again the first man we meet is a gentleman whose long gray locks bespeak that he has for many years passed the meridian. That is the venerable and respected Charles Miner, the eloquent historian of Wyoming. His name will live so long as the valorous deeds of her noble men and women shall be read by the student of history. You ask who those two men are so earnestly engaged in conversation. The tall man, who has just taken a pinch of snuff, is Samuel Collings, editor of the Democratic paper and one of the most incisive and able political writers of the State. They are evidently trying to settle some question of party politics, for the other gentleman is Andrew Beaumont, who has made a national reputation in Congress, and a man of undoubted integrity and ability. Dr. Miner comes along; a very able physician and withal an orator of the best type. Fortunately we shall be able to get a look at another celebrity. Watch that humped back man as he approaches. He lives about four miles out, but is frequently seen on the streets of Wilkes-Barre. It is the Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, who has electrified audiences from one end of the country

to the other, on the subject of temperance. They call him "Pappy" Hunt for short, and he can tell an anecdote equal to the best of them. John Butler, a descendant of the revolutionary patriots and one of our honored representative men, is crossing over on purpose to meet him. If we were near enough we could hear some first-class joking. There are other noted people whom it would be a pleasure to point out—in fact, there, across the square, are Judge Kidder, H. W. Nicholson, and in another direction Revs. John Dorrance, Pearne and Nelson, all distinguished in their different callings,—but the stage horn is blowing and we must haste to take our departure.

Thus ends these musings—they are suggestive of many and conflicting emotions—pleasure to look upon the faces of those who in the long ago were helping to manage and move the destinies of our adored country,—sorrow to think that of all the number herein mentioned, but three are left with us. Though gathered to their fathers, it is gratifying that there are still many left who delight to cherish and honor their memory.—E. Merrified, in Scranton Sunday News, Feb. 2, 1896.

CURIOUS WELSH RELIC.

An interesting relic of the landing of the French army in Abergwaun, Penbroke-shire, South Wales, in 1797, is now in the possession of Levi Gibbons, 184 Stanton street. It is a red shawl that his great-grandmother wore, she being one of the women who paraded around a hill under the command of an old soldier to represent the British army at a distance. Seeing no end of them coming around the hill the French thought the place swarmed with Redcoats. They made for their ships as fast as possible, but in their return they encountered a terrible storm which drove them back shipwrecked on the Welsh coast again. After being fugitives through the country for several months they were compelled through hunger to do something and worked with the farmers. The shawl is of ordinary size, trimmed with black ribbon around the edge and is in good condition. There are two more of them kept as relics in a Cardiff historical museum.

EARLY WYOMING COUNTY NEWS-PAPERS.

The first paper ever published at Tunkhannock was the *Luzerne Democrat*, whose publication was begun in May, 1841, by William S. Jayne and Dr. J. V. Smith. This first journalistic venture lived six months. Tunkhannock was then in Luzerne County. Wyoming County was created in 1842, and in July of that year William Bolton, whose daughters Kate and Frances still reside here, originated the *Wyoming Patrol*, another Democratic paper. Mr. Bolton seemed to understand the people and their needs, and continued to publish the *Patrol* until he contracted the gold fever in 1849, when he sold the *Patrol* to S. S. Winchester, a bright young attorney of this place. Mr. Winchester in April, 1849, changed the name to the *Wyoming County Democrat*, and continued to manage it under the new name until Dec. 13, 1853, when Alvin R. Conklin became the proprietor for a few months to an issue of half a sheet and in August of the same year went out. The first Whig paper was started Sept. 25, 1844, by O. N. Worden. It was called the *Wyoming County Record*. Mr. Worden was a man of considerable ability, and continued to publish the *Record* until 1848, when it ceased to be self-supporting, and its publication was discontinued. From its ashes phoenix-like, sprung the *Wyoming County Whig*, under the management of C. E. Lathrop. This journal was issued regularly until Dec. 23, 1852, when it, too, died for lack of nourishment.

One of the potent causes of the demise of the *Democrat* was the birth of a new paper called the *North Branch Democrat*, on Feb. 15, 1854, under the management of D. A. Yarrington and Dr. J. V. Smith. November 29 of the same year Dr. Smith became sole owner and continued to publish the paper until May 21, 1856, when he sold it to A. R. Conklin, B. M. Shannon and F. G. Osterhout. Shannon sold his interest Aug. 27, 1856, to the other two partners, and evidently made a good sale, for on the 19th of the November following he appears again as sole owner and proprietor. He published the paper until May 13, 1857, when he sold the material and good will to George A. Chase, J. J. Osterhout and C. H. Osterhout.⁶ The Fourth of July number of that year came out in the national colors, the first sheet being published in red ink, the

second in blue ink. July 15, 1857, Mr. Chase bought the interests of his other partners, but held them only until he found a buyer in the person of the late John Day. Mr. Day purchased the paper Aug. 19, 1857, and October 14 following sold a half interest to his brother, Alvin Day. It was published by John and Alvin Day until Dec. 26, 1860, when it was sold to Benjamin F. Emory, a Methodist minister, and an ardent Republican. Mr. Emory changed the name to the *Wyoming Intelligencer*, and the *North Branch Democrat* went out, done to its death by purchase of its foes. The new Republican paper made it lively for the Republican paper which preceded it. Its first issue was dated Jan. 16, 1861, its last was Nov. 20 in the same year, at which date it was absorbed and passed into the *Wyoming Republican*, owned and managed by G. L. and H. E. Tiffany. In the same year an effort was made to rehabilitate the *North Branch Democrat*. The late Col. D. C. Kitchen, a writer of considerable ability, issued Aug. 14, 1861, a new paper with the name *North Branch Democrat—new series*. The colonel got out just four numbers, the last dated Sept. 11, when he disposed of it to the late Harvey Sickler, who published it under the name given above until Aug. 7, 1867, when he enlarged it and rechristened it the *Wyoming Democrat*. Aug. 2, 1871, Mr. Sickler sold the paper to Alvin Day, who published it until March 3, 1880, when he took in Charles E. Terry as a partner. April 29, 1881, Mr. Terry disposed of his interest to Mr. Day. On December 2 of the same year Mr. Terry was again admitted as a partner, and the *Democrat* was published by Day & Terry until Dec. 5, 1884, when James F. Day purchased the interest of Mr. Terry, and since that time the journal has been conducted by Day & Son.

The *Wyoming Republican* was started Feb. 8, 1860, by our Nicholson attorney, S. L. Tiffany, who has always had a strong and decided bent for literary pursuits, and who withal is a clever thinker and a terse writer. Wishing to be relieved of the business management of the paper, so as to devote his time to its literary make-up, he sold Jan. 23, 1861, a half interest to H. E. Tiffany. They continued its management together until Nov. 26, 1862, when they sold the paper to William Burgess. Two years after, on Nov. 23, 1864, Mr. Burgess placed the paper in charge of the late Ira Avery, and himself went to the front in the service of his country. Mr. Avery

made the press speak in no uncertain tones in favor of the most thorough prosecution of the war. The war between the two newspapers published here, the Republican, managed by Mr. Avery, and the Democrat, published by Harvey Sickler, was as fierce and uncompromising as that waged by the government against the States in rebellion. The issues of the war were canvassed as thoroughly in Wyoming, and the participants of each side were as bitter as any county in the commonwealth. Mr. Burgess returned Aug. 30, 1865, after the close of the war, and stood at the helm again. He published the paper for eighteen months after his return, but the list fell off and he stopped publication with the issue of Feb. 26, 1867. In August of the same year A. F. Yost made an attempt to revive it. His first issue was Aug. 22, 1867. There were six weekly issues of the paper—then came the seventh—a half sheet, made classic and famous by Mr. Yost's valedictory, which was subsequently published in full in Harper's Editor's Drawer—Vol. 36, page 270. It is so unique that we reproduce it: "With this half sheet, dear reader of the Republican, it is our intention to bid you a sorrowful farewell. This may surprise and disgust you, for we are vain enough to believe that our paper has been a welcome visitor—not up to the standard, in any respect, but it was our design to improve as we went along—and you are loth to see it go under. Yet such, you see, is its manifest destiny. We are flat broke—so completely strapped that if 100-acre farms were selling at 25 cents apiece we couldn't muster enough to buy a wild plum tree. That is why we are compelled to stop. Our people had a wrong conception of us, we fear. Understand we were born pretty much in the manner children are born now—a good while ago, it is true, but that don't affect the truth of our statement. Being born in the flesh, we are too material, we fear, to get quite fat on promises, with glimpses of success in the future, and nothing to appease the clamorous demands of the present. When we came into this beautiful world money happened to be very scarce, and we knew by intuition that we were to be the architect of our own fortune—were bound to hew our way through the awkward material and under the roughest circumstances, but we are not prepared to weather it in Wyoming County. There don't appear to be enough of the true Christian element among you—you are too selfish, don't want to get acquainted with any-

body but yourself—allow a friendless stranger to seek his company among the low and vulgar, or if he is too refined for that he may mould and rot in his own individuality. You are not sociable enough. We might possibly give you some advice, but we forbear. Look at your rickety town with your eyes open. Rid yourselves of some of the rich fossils of the last century, and it will do you incalculable good. Elect men to fill your borough offices who are enterprising, and if you haven't them, import them. Devote more money to the cause of education. Build a respectable institution of learning in an inhabitable spot, and in advance of all pay your debts and do not suffer the sheriff to settle with your creditors. This advice won't be included in any one's bill. We came into the county two months ago with the full intention of keeping the Republican running or bust. We go back with the not very pious but quite forcible legend of 'Busted, by —' fearfully and painfully distinct upon every part and parcel of us. Our professional brethren will let us down easily as possible under the circumstances. We are sorry that in our retirement we will not be able to subscribe for all of our exchanges. If any have words to comfort and consolation to administer to us in our 'critical condition' we will be glad to know it, and if any feel like dropping a tear, we say, quite parenthetically, let it drop. If any have a jog for us, please address us at Bloomsburg, Pa. To our readers we also say farewell, and though we have never seen very many of you, we feel just as friendly toward you. We regret that our relations are thus abruptly suspended, and that you owe us so much money, but your easy consciences will fix that all right, we have no doubt. We then slowly vanish from public view like foam upon the ocean—a little heavier, but as beautiful—and lose ourself once more in our quiet and happy family, and become plainly A. F. Yost.

In spite of Mr. Yost's sad and somewhat withering farewell to Wyoming County, he stayed away only two years and came back announcing that he had come to give it one more trial. Aug. 5, 1869, the Tunkhannock Republican came to life, with Perry Marcy as proprietor and A. F. Yost as editor. In the first issue Mr. Yost made his apology for coming back. The paper jogged along with this management as a temperance Republican paper until Nov. 26, 1872, when Col. Marcy sold the outfit to F. J.

Furman and the business was carried on under the firm name of Yost & Furman. Dec. 9, 1874, Mr. Yost bought Furman out and handled it alone until Sept. 29, 1875, when Col. Marcy again became proprietor. He kept it this time only a few months, and Jan. 5, 1876, he sold the material and good will to Cyrus D. Camp, now of Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Camp, with his characteristic energy, took hold of the Republican, which had been for some time running on the down grade, increased the subscription list, improved the general appearance of the paper and made it the organ of its party in the county. Mr. Camp conducted the Republican successfully for over five years, and on July 22, 1881, passed it over in better condition than it had ever been, to G. S. Baldwin and C. M. Chapman. It was managed by them in the name of Baldwin & Chapman until April 30, 1886, when it passed into the hands of George S. Baldwin, who has continued as editor and publisher until the present time. Of the papers now published in Tunkhannock the Wyoming Democrat is the oldest, having received its name Aug. 7, 1867. The Tunkhannock Republican comes next, dating its birth from Aug. 5, 1869.

The Standard was launched as a Democratic paper on March 29, 1879, by Garman of Wilkes-Barre, who was principal of the Tunkhannock high school at that time. It goes without saying that the Democracy of the Standard was of the most lucid and lurid type during the eight months that John was on guard. On November 14 of that year the paper was sold to G. Decatur Bacon, who took his son, Cecil R. Bacon, a practical printer, into partnership and under the name of G. D. Bacon & Son the Standard was continued in the line indicated by the slashings made by Mr. Garman.

During the Greenback times, the advocates of our national money feeling the need of an organ in the county, gave such expression to their wishes that A. R. Merrick came here from Tioga County and associating with himself Mason Stark of this place, issued a new Greenback paper, sending out the first number on Oct. 15, 1881. For two years four papers were published and sent out from Tunkhannock.

After a time Bacon & Son, of the Standard, and Mr. Merrick, of the Worker, on account of a lack of nourishment, or from other good and sufficient causes, became weary and wanted to become private citizens. Mason Stark, however,

had not had enough of journalism, in fact, he desired to follow up its mysteries even to its inner and sacred shrine. He reached out both hands—taking the Standard in his right and the Worker in his left—and with all his force brought them together with a dull thud. They fused, combined and consolidated and intertwined into something new and different from either, an independent paper with strong Democratic leanings. This new production was called the New Age. Its first issue was dated April 19, 1883. Mr. Stark kept up his enthusiasm and handled the New Age in a very able manner for three years and more. Wishing then to retire from the exacting requirements of Wyoming County journalism, he sold his entire interest in the paper on Oct. 7, 1886, to George J. Young and Victor H. Lyman. This partnership lasted only a year, Mr. Young retiring and disposing of his interest to B. L. Lyman on Oct. 6, 1887. Since that time the New Age has been published by Messrs. Lyman Bros., who have made it a very creditable journal.

There are two religious papers which emanated from Tunkhannock and they deserve more than a passing notice. The Baptist Messenger, which was edited by Rev. A. J. Bergen Browe and printed at the office of George J. Young on Warren street, issued its first number in July, 1889. It was a religious paper issued monthly in the interest of the Baptist Church of this place, of which Rev. Mr. Browe was the pastor. It was published and distributed gratuitously for over a year, the advertisements defraying the expense of publication. It was an experiment and under the able management of Mr. Browe accomplished all it was intended for.

The Methodist was the result of the unaided efforts of Norris, the 11-year-old son of passenger agent J. Selden Swisher. The first number was issued in 1894 and was all written with pen and ink by the enterprising editor, who had not the necessary outfit for printing it. He continued to publish it monthly, writing out the full contents of each number for each subscriber for nearly a year. The number for June, 1895, was put in cold type, and its subsequent issues have all been printed. The proprietor likes type better, as the subscribers can't kick about his handwriting, and he finds that he can keep up better with the demands of his increasing circulation. The paper is diminutive in size, but is neatly printed in an original manner.

HISTORY OF AMERICAN COALS.

In a series of articles on "American Coals," running in the Coal Trade Journal and written by William Jasper Nicolls, the following is noted:

Only a general idea can be given of the locality in which the red ash and white ash coals occur, as they frequently overlap in the several fields of Pennsylvania anthracites, but roughly the high coals come first in hardness and density, and have a white ash. This includes the Green Mountain, Black Creek, Hazleton, Beaver Meadow and Panther Creek.

These coals have always been, and are now, the standard of excellence amongst the many varieties of anthracite, and are so recognized in the trade. Many a ton of inferior coal has found its devious way to the consumer, under the password 'Lehigh,' which never saw the region, but, to paraphrase a familiar proverb, 'It's a wise piece of coal that knoweth its own origin.' These coals are generally of the 'white ash' variety.

The next are the Wyoming coals, including Carbondale, Scranton, Pittston, Wilkes-Barre, Plymouth and Kingston, many of which are white ash, while some are semi-anthracite.

A recent writer in the Juniata Herald gives the following interesting account of the first struggles of 'Wyoming' coal for recognition:

Coal was first discovered in the Wyoming Valley in 1805 at Plymouth, Pa., by John and Abijah Smith, two brothers, who had come from Derby, Conn., in 1805. In 1807 they shipped their first boat-load of coal to Columbia, Pa. Anthracite coal at that time was not fully understood as to burning in an open grate, but was used in blast furnaces, where artificial blast was employed to produce combustion. The Smith brothers accompanied this load of coal, and also took along a stonemason, with all necessary tools to set up grates in houses, in order to demonstrate its excellent qualities for heating purposes. Several houses in Columbia were supplied with grates, in which 'stone coal,' as it was then called, were made, and careful instructions were given in regard to maintaining the fires. Notwithstanding the thorough arrangements and preparations made for the introduction of coal for domestic purposes, it was only after a struggle of several years that they were able to gain a profit on their enterprise.

Mr. Pierce is authority for the statement that 'up to 1820 the total amount of coal sent from Wyoming is reckoned at eighty-five hundred (\$,500) tons,' and the same au-

thority says that Col. Washington Lee in 1820 'mined and sent to Baltimore one thousand (1,000) tons, which he sold at eight dollars per ton.'

The North Branch Canal was completed to the Nanticoke dam in 1830, and opened in 1831. The first boat, the Wyoming, was built by Hon. John Koons. It was launched and towed to Nanticoke, where it was loaded with ten tons of coal, a quantity of flour and other merchandise destined for Philadelphia. The Wyoming passed down the river to Northumberland, where it entered the Pennsylvania Canal, and proceeded by way of the Union and Schuylkill canals to Philadelphia. On her return she brought back a cargo weighing fifteen tons, was frozen in the ice at New Buffalo in January, 1831, and arrived at Wilkes-Barre three months after the date of her departure. Thus it is proven that the shipment of coal from this region was commenced earlier than is reported in the statements of the coal productions of the different regions.

In 1843 the completion of the Lehigh and Susquehanna R. R. from Wilkes-Barre to White Haven opened up a new avenue for taking the Wyoming coal to market. From this time on the history of the coal trade of this region is well known and its greatly increased production may be seen by a glance at the tables published for each year.

The coal deposits of the Wyoming Valley lies in one large basin, about 54 miles long and an average of about three and one-half miles in width—a deep subsidence, shaped like a huge boat, lying between the Wilkes-Barre mountains on the south side, and the Kingston and Capouse mountains on the north side. The aggregate thickness, at the deepest point, is about ninety feet, divided into ten separate seams. The greatest depth is in Hanover Township, midway between Wilkes-Barre and Nanticoke, where the 'red ash' (the lowest seam) is 2,200 below the surface.

The "red ash" coals are generally found in the Schuylkill region, and include Lorberr, Lykens Valley, East Mahanoy and Shamokin.

The efforts made by Col. Shoemaker and others in 1812 to introduce this coal into Philadelphia, which nearly resulted in his arrest and imprisonment as a common impostor and swindler, have already been related. It remains only to add that the men who obtained a writ from the Quaker City authorities denouncing the colonel as 'a knave and a scoundrel' for trying to impose rocks on them for coal, were the very men to whom he had given the coal for nothing!"

In the following article Mr. Nicolls becomes somewhat reminiscent.

"We can imagine our country before the 'prospector' occupied the land. The discoveries of coals and other minerals were the chance happenings of accident, and often of ignorant observers who were unable to take advantage of the things revealed to them. We have heard the oft repeated tale of the upturned tree in the forest with chunks of pure anthracite clinging—like potatoes—to the mass of roots, and the profound astonishment of the individual who first made the remarkable find. In like manner we have heard of the poverty-stricken farmer who built miles and miles of stone fence of purest coal in dense ignorance of the blissful fact that his rocky old goat pasture was nothing more or less than a bank, 'full forty feet deep,' of the black diamonds. Also various other legends and folk-lore, handed down from one generation to another, until by mere persistence the naked fiction has been clothed with the mantle of truth and becomes a fact in the annals of history. That accidental discoveries have happened in the history of American coal is barely possible, but highly improbable. Geologists and the science of geology did begin with the history of coal development in the New World, and the trained prospector at that time was abroad in the land, thoroughly equipped for his work and inspired with enthusiasm at the magnitude of the task before him, with the experience of workers in older fields to guide and direct him.

"Pages could be filled with the interesting accounts of the various coal discoveries, pages of matter that have done service in each succeeding account since the beginning; but it is necessary to draw the line at romance or tradition with the accounts already given in the preceding chapters and continue the story in its various lines of development.

"The geologist points out the path, the prospector with the instinct of his profession follows it until the coal is found. In his search no trifling appearance of the surface escapes his penetrating eye. Carefully he follows the winding course of the streams, the banks of the rivers and dark ravines, industriously collecting evidence with which to convict Dame Nature of secreting treasures. The naked sides of the beetling mountain cliffs expose their seamy contours to the practical vision of the prospector in apparent frankness of expression, but he is too wary to trust entirely to appearances, the line of black smut, however, having been found, points with unerring dis-

tingness to the coal seam beyond. The condition in which the coal seams underlay the surface was for a time misunderstood. In 1570 George Owen left in manuscript a 'History of Pembroke-shire,' in which he mentions the idea of an orderly arrangement of the coal strata, but he was evidently not aware of their uniform continuity in beds or seams, and improperly designates them as 'veins.' It is to the Welsh miners that we owe for the word gwythyen, or vein, but 'Coal is never found issuing in veins from the interior of the planet,' says Professor Lesley, 'like gold and silver, or filling irregular cross crevices in limestone, like lead; nor spread abroad in lakes of hardened lava, like basalt and greenstone; nor embedded in clay, crystallizing upward from the walls and bottoms of the deep, wide fissures, as bunches of grapes, or in bundles of pipes like the hematite iron ores; nor lying exposed upon the surface in blocks, like native copper, or meteoric iron, but always as a thin sheet or stratum, extending through the hills as far as the hills extend, and enclosed between similar sheets of other kinds of rock.'

"There are, no doubt,' continues Mr. Lesley, 'few native business men of Philadelphia who cannot remember the panic occasioned by the news that the miners had reached the bottom of the Mauch Chunk Summit mine. * * * Men were terrified to learn that Mauch Chunk Mountain was not a solid mass of coal, but had to learn that one-sixth or eighth of the United States was underlaid by beds of it.' Even at that time men were ignorant of the fact that coal is not contained in veins but in thin beds or seams, enclosed by many hundreds of feet of other rock.

"The geological specimens contained in almost every country house are given due consideration by the searcher for coal, and many a discovery made in ignorance by the unlettered forester or ploughman is made genuine by the decision of the geologist, without whose knowledge the 'discovery' would have remained as though it had never been made. For if these specimens should contain fossils—the branching, fern-like sphenopteris, the regular impressions as though made by a seal of the sigillaria, the more ornate and graceful tracing of the lepidodendron, the broad leaf of the neuropteris, the star-like asterophyllites or the pointed sections of the calamites—he would know that the rock came from the typical coal measures and therefore he would have good prospects of finding coal in the

neighborhood from whence the specimen came.

"It is only, however, under certain conditions that the coal seams can be located by the topographical or surface indications. The great amount of drift comprised of soil or alluvial often completely hides the coal outcroppings and the positions of the coal strata from view. How often the discouraged prospector has wished for the faith that could move mountains, if only for one brief moment, so that he could view for an instant the uncovered and naked seams of coal!

HER EIGHTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY.

[From Dallas Post.]

Another of those pleasant gatherings that add so much to life's enjoyments took place Monday, Feb. 10, 1896, at the home of Mrs. Susannah Warden, of this place, it being her 87th birthday anniversary. For several years it has been the custom of her children, grandchildren, nephews and nieces to gather on that day and celebrate the birthday of their aged parent.

Quite early in the morning the friends began to assemble and before noon the house was almost filled with the happy guests, whose presence seemed to produce a joyful effect on the hostess, and she appeared to enjoy the occasion.

Those present were all her children that are living, their names being as follows: Mrs. A. S. Orr and husband, of Highland farm; Mrs. Smith Irwin, of Wilkes-Barre; Mrs. A. M. Roushey of Dallas; Mrs. Joseph Atherholt, of Dallas; Mrs. H. B. Major, of Hanover; Miss Susie A. Warden, a home; D. M. Warden and wife, of Wilkes-Barre.

There were also present Mrs. W. R. Garinger of Wilkes-Barre, Miss Mame Atherholt of Dallas, William Orr and wife of Highland farm; Misses Susie and Millie and John Warden of Wilkes-Barre, all being grandchildren of Mrs. Warden. There were also present the following great-grandchildren: Master Marion and Myrtle and Althea Garinger of Wilkes-Barre and Margaretta Wilson of Binghamton, N. Y.

Besides the above there were present: P. N. Warden, wife and daughter, the former being a nephew, all of Dallas; Miss Carrie Reed of Dallas, Mrs. James D. Seacrist of Hanover, Mrs. uKip of Wilkes-Barre, and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Shaver of Shavertown.

THE WYOMING ARTILLERISTS.

[W.-B. Record March 5, 1896.]

The following facts about the historic, but now defunct organization, were written by the late Wesley Johnson in 1877:

The artillerists have a history; for the Susquehanna, that has been flowing to the sea for ages, is still the same old river, so this is still the same old organization which Francis L. Bowman commanded in 1842, and Capt. Edmund L. Dana marched with to the triumphant close of the Mexican war.

In a little work before us, by Lieut. Col. D. C. Kitchen, we learn that the company was organized in 1842, with Frank Bowman for captain, E. L. Dana first lieutenant, Martin Long second, and Aaron Brown third. It had W. W. Wallace for first sergeant, Eleazer B. Collings for second, S. H. Puterbaugh for third, and William Sharpe for fourth. The corporals were William Dickover, G. A. Davis, John Wolf and John Millheiser. Of the rank and file there were many of our well known citizens, viz: Adam Behee, John C. Frederick, S. H. Lynch, Andrew Kesler, John B. Smith of Pittston, E. E. Le Clerc, Samuel Bowman, Joseph Murray, M. B. Hammer, Conrad Klipple, Charles Lehman, C. B. Price, William H. Alexander, Charles Westfield, E. P. Lynch and others.

In 1845 the company mustered in a grand encampment at Lewisburg, and by this time had added to its roll A. H. Emley, Thomas Blake, Lewis Hitchler, Charles Roth, Edward G. Mallory, H. C. Anhiser, Henry Titus and other well remembered citizens. On the 6th of December, 1846, the company set sail in a canal boat to join Gen. Scott's forces, destined for the subjugation of the country of the ancient Aztecs. Dana was captain, E. B. Collings was first lieutenant, F. L. Bowman second, and A. H. Goff and Jacob Waelder were seconds by brevet. Bowman was elected major and Joseph W. Mines elected to fill the vacancy. Goff was assassinated at Perote by a captain of a Georgia company named Foster, but all the other commissioned officers returned alive. While in Mexico the company numbered in its ranks a correspondent of the "North American" of Philadelphia, William C. Toby, one of the liveliest and raciest newspaper correspondents of the day. The company participated in many battles, among them, their first baptism of fire at their

landing at Vera Cruz, where the coolness and courage of Maj. Bowman, while receiving the first fire, was conspicuous. They were in Gen. Pillow's brigade at Cerro Gordo, where some heavy fighting was done. They also did some heavy drinking of pulque and aguadiente while on the march through Jalapa and on to Perote, where Lieut. Goff was killed. They sustained a protracted siege at Pueblo, enduring great privations. After the war was over we all remember the grand ovation given to the survivors in the field opposite the house of Mrs. Ruth Ross, on South Main street, upon their return, the observed of all observers and the heroes of the hour. Some of them have fallen on other fields, and some have been raised to positions of distinction and honor in the land. [Of those who were in the company at the close of the Mexican War, only three are now (1896) living. These are William Dickover, Charles Roth and Samuel H. Lynch.—Editor Record.]

The company was afterwards commanded by Captains E. B. Collings, E. B. Harvey, Samuel Bowman, N. Pierson and A. H. Emley; under the last it served in the three months' service, the captain being promoted to colonel of 8th Regiment under Gen. Patterson. In July, 1862, the artillerists were again mustered into the 143d Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers under Capt. George N. Reichard and served during the war of the rebellion as a valiant and worthy company. In 1870 the company was reorganized, with John Espy for captain, who was succeeded by E. W. Finch. In 1876 the company was re-officered through the efforts of T. C. Parker, and at the suggestion of Maj. Gen. Osborne, Joseph E. Ullman was elected captain. Capt. Ullman soon resigned, and the company is now (1877) in command of its Senior First Lieut. G. E. Ross, conjointly with Lieut. T. C. Parker, who afterwards became captain. Lieut. Parker has been ten years in service with the company.

The reminiscences of Col. Kitchen, from which we obtain the most of the above facts, is well written, as is almost anything that emanates from his facile pen; and as he details facts that came within his own observation, may therefore be relied on as correct. To any one who knew the most of the actors in the scenes, and their immediate friends, the colonel's book should possess a deep interest, and will sup-

ply some links in our local history not obtainable elsewhere to the future gatherer of unconsidered trifles. The scenes and incidents of camp life in Mexico are very vividly portrayed, and bring to mind many similar ones in the memory of the writer hereof.

[W.-B. Record March 6, 1896.]

Editor Record: I wish to add a word or two to the history of the Wyoming Artillerists, mentioned in yesterday's issue. I was a member of it when commanded by Capt. Pierson and Capt. Harvey. In the three months service I was with it as first lieutenant under Capt. Finch, and immediately after being mustered out I recruited it as the Wyoming Artillerists, for the three years' service, and had thirty-two of its former members and was mustered into service as Co. "L," 23rd P. V., (Birney's Zouaves) and after five months was transferred and known as Co. "D," 61st P. V. Now if Col. Reichard's company of the 143d was also the Wyoming Artillerists, we are very happy to know that its Mexican reputation, (and ours) was so good as to recruit another namesake so long after the first and second was in the field. I will add that after the rebellion I remained a member of the Wyoming Artillerists until it was disbanded and personally turned over its cannon and equipments to the Adjutant General at Harrisburg. It ought to be in existence to-day.

Butler Dilley,
Late Captain Co. "D," 61st P. V.,
(Wyoming Artillerists.)

LIST OF MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS.

The information is often desired by students of genealogy as to where can be found lists of the Pilgrims who came in the Mayflower and those who were with Penn on board the Welcome. The Record is able, through the kindness of State Librarian Egle of Harrisburg, to give the desired information, as follows:

The list of the Mayflower's passengers is to be found in the Massachusetts Historical Collections, volume three of the fourth series.

The names of the emigrants who came with William Penn on board the Welcome in October, 1682, are given in Westcott's History of Philadelphia, volume one, pages ninety-nine and one hundred.

DEATH OF JOHN M. STARK.

[W.-B. Record March 16, 1896.]

John M. Stark, a life long resident of Wyoming Valley, and a member of one of the oldest families, was found dead in bed at his home in Wyoming on Saturday morning at 6 o'clock. He had been suffering from indigestion for some time, but was always able to be about. He was feeling well on Friday afternoon, and informed a friend, whom he met on his way to the post office, that he felt better that he had felt for several days. He was in good spirits all day and before retiring at 8 o'clock he ate a hearty supper. He was always an early riser and as he was not down stairs at 8 o'clock, Mrs. Stark, thinking that perhaps he was not feeling well, went to his room to see if any thing was wrong. She went to his bedside and called to him. He did not answer and she took hold of him to shake him, but was horrified to find that he was cold in death. She informed the remainder of the family and Dr. Knapp made an examination and found that he had been dead several hours, heart disease being ascribed as the cause.

The deceased was 77 years old and throughout his long lease of life enjoyed the best of health. During his career he held many responsible positions and filled them always with credit to himself and in a manner satisfactory to his employers. For ten years he was superintendent of the North Branch Canal, and for eight years was superintendent of the Pennsylvania Coal Co. At the time of his death he was president of the Stark Land Co. of Pittston, and director of the People's Savings Bank of the same place. Deceased was the son of James and Mary Stark and was born in Plains Township, Feb. 23, 1819, a lineal descendant of the Stark family referred to in Bradsbys' History of Luzerne County, as follows:

"Christopher, James and Henry Stark were buried side by side in a cemetery one mile south of Pittston. Those three were father, son and grandson, and the paternal estate in 1845 was occupied by James and John M., and George M. Stark, the son, grandson and great grandson of the three first named. In 1845 James Stark was aged 50, and at that early day could point side by side to the three generations of his ancestors. Miner thought at that time there was not another instance where there was a great grandfather buried in the county. The Starks came in 1771, when Christopher

Stark must have been a very aged man; both he and his son died before the Wyoming battle. Two of the Stark names appear in 1772—Aaron and James; the former sold his land claim to James and settled in another part of the valley. Three brothers came from England, and a descendant of one of the brothers was the Gen. John Stark of immortal fame—the hero of Bennington. James Stark, son of James and brother of Henry, was a member of one of the independent companies. In the Wyoming battle (fought July 3, 1778) were three brothers—Daniel, Aaron and James; the last only escaped with his life. A grandson of the slain Aaron, John D. Stark, became a prominent citizen of Pittston." (Conrad S. Stark, Esq., of Pittston, now deceased, a prominent member of the Luzerne bar, was a son of John D. Stark.)

Deceased is survived by his wife and five children. They are: Harriet E., wife of Moses Coolbaugh of Pittston; Joanna, married to M. H. Stevens of West Pittston; Mary L., wife of W. H. Shoemaker of Wyoming; Ellen S., wife of F. C. Mosier of West Pittston, and Jennie E., wife of Dr. J. N. Warner of this city. There were two sons, now deceased: Benjamin, who died July 27, 1882, and George M., July 27, 1895. Both of these were prominent citizens of the valley at the time of their deaths.

WILKES-BARRE PAPER OF 1843.

L. W. Rice of Lehman was a caller at the Record office on Saturday and left a copy of the Wilkes-Barre Advocate of Dec. 29, 1843. It was published by Sharp D. Lewis on Market street, in a building opposite Voorhis & Murray's. Of the several advertisers of that day only two survive the wear and tear of fifty-five years, Samuel McCarragher and William S. Wells. Advertisers whose deaths have occurred comparatively recently are, L. D. Shoemaker (law), H. C. Wilson (blacksmith). This paper was the predecessor of the Record.

ANOTHER INDIAN RELIC.

Carney, Pa., March 20, 1896.—Editor Record: I saw in the Record an account of an axe-pipe, which prompts me to say that Jackson Champion has one, I think, just like the one found in Bradford. This was found in North Branch Township, Wyoming County, some fifteen years ago. It is quite a place for Indian arrows and clay pottery. J. H. Champion,

THE MEXICAN WAR.

Wilkes-Barre, March 15, 1896.—Editor Record: I notice in your historical column an article on the Wyoming Artillerists and it reminded me that I have in my possession the original roll of this company offering their services to go to Mexico. The roll or rolls are in four separate sheets of paper, four of which have a heading prescribing the purpose of the roll to which the signatures are attached. These several rolls were evidently put in circulation by the officers of the company to secure the names of the members of the company (at that time attached to the militia of the State) and any others who would enlist, with their offer to enter the service of the United States as volunteers. The papers are yellow with age and apparently were handled considerably when circulated, as finger marks and blots of ink attest the carelessness attendant in their circulation. Three of the headings are in the handwriting of Capt. E. L. Dana and one in the handwriting of Eleazer B. Collings, first lieutenant of the company. Capt. Dana's heading for the first sheet with names attached is as follows:

To E. L. Dana,

Capt. Wyoming Artillerists.

Sir: The undersigned members of the Wyoming Artillerists report themselves to you in readiness to enter the service for the Mexican War whenever your orders therefor may be received, agreeably to general orders No. 6 of the date of Nov. 18, 1846.

*Arnold Lewis,
A. Beaumont, Jr.,
Wm. S. Kutz,
*Geo. Collings,
Edward M. Flynt,
*E. B. Collings,
*F. L. Bowman,
*C. W. Lutes,
*D. C. Kitchen,
Geo. F. Slocum,
A. J. Baldwin,
A. D. Jones,
*Geo. W. Fell,
E. T. Cooper,
*John Howard, Jr.,
*William Diamond,
William A. Dripps,
Joel Smith,
John Muer (?),
William Kelley,
*Thomas J. Wright,
*Lyman P. Kidder,
John Johnson,
*Aaron Gangawere,
*Luke Floyd,
John Frace,
*John Sliker,

*E. L. Dana,
*J. W. Myers,
*John B. Vaughn,
*Danl. W. Weitzell,
H. T. Vaughn,
*Hiram Spencer,
Wm. St. John,
*A. H. Goff,
H. Titus,
Chas. Bennet,
*Wallace Belding,
*M. H. De Burger,
Edward Hughes,
Bernard Hose (?),
T. S. Hildard,
*David H. Howard,
*J. C. Garey,
James Smith,
William Spencer,
Chas. Seefrit,
*Hemriah Hoven-
bof (?),
Nicholas Fell,
Samuel Wiggins,
Wm. H. F. Owen,
Uriah Bonham,
*Charles Tripp,

The next roll with heading, made out in the handwriting of E. B. Collings, reads as follows:

To Cap. E. L. Dana,

Sir: The undersigned agree to hold themselves in readiness for your orders and consider themselves members of the Wyoming Artillerists and will obey your orders in accordance with Adjutant General G. W. Bowman's order No. 6.

Nov. 28, 1846.

T. M. Horton,	Patrick Fallon,
*Dk. Devany,	*Patrick O'Donnell,
Abram Gilpin,	H. S. Larrison,
Wm. Evans,	Morgan Jones,
*Patrick Gilroy,	Henry Jones,
*Thompson Price,	*Alfred Bentley,
Thomas Huffman,	Thomas Nelson,
James C. Higgins,	Joshua Jenkins,

The other two rolls are made up and signed to the following heading written by Capt. Dana:

To Capt. E. L. Dana,

Sir: We hereby volunteer our services for the Mexican War and propose our names for membership in the Wyoming Artillerists.

*Wilson E. Sisty,	*James F. Dill,
Walsingham G.	Patrick O'Brien,
Ward,	William Vanderbark
*J. W. Potter,	Samuel Hunt,
James B. Clark,	*Charles Johnson,
Hiram Moore,	James Megan,
Wm. Willis,	O. P. Hart,
James McGinnis,	*Frederick Lehman,
*John Smith,	Chas. Maeyer (?),
*Patrick King,	*Gershon B. Vangor-
John Sisk,	don,
*Jas. H. Stephens,	*Grannis Abel.

The names with a question mark are not plainly written, but they are given as nearly as they can be deciphered.

The names marked with an asterisk (*) are those who went with the company to Mexico under Capt. Dana. Of the ninety-one who volunteered to go, only forty-two enlisted for the service. It must of course be understood that the Wyoming Artillerists at this time was a regularly organized and equipped military organization and the men above named who did go with the company are those who were either members of the company or who were selected to fill up the ranks. A number of those who volunteered were in some cases too young to be enrolled or their parents would not give consent to their going.

Taken together with the men already enrolled as members of the organization, it shows a spirit of patriotism upon the part of those who volunteered for this arduous service in responding to their country's call.

The company mustered ninety-six strong, including officers, when it embarked on canal boats for Pittsburg on the 6th day of December, 1846, during a fierce snow storm. Previous to their departure that morning they marched to the old church on the Public Square to the music of bands, and the streets were thronged with wives and sweethearts, brothers and friends. The company filed into the church, which quickly filled to overflowing. The farewell address to this band of patriots was delivered by Dr. Thomas W. Miner—some of whom would never look again upon their beloved haunts or hear the voice which upon this occasion cheered them with encouraging words and thrilled them with eloquence and touched their hearts with the pathos of that sad farewell.

At Pittsburg the company was assigned as Co. I to the First Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, which was composed of six companies from Philadelphia, one from Pottsville, one from Wilkes-Barre and two from Pittsburg, commanded by Col. F. M. Wynkoop of Pottsville.

The following is the muster roll of the Wyoming Artillerists in the Mexican War with the recruits who joined at Puebla in September, 1848. [The letter R indicates that they returned with the company.]

Capt. Edmund L. Dana, R.
 1st. Lieut. E. B. Collings, discharged at Vera Cruz.
 1st Lieut. F. L. Bowman, elected major.
 2d. Lieut. A. H. Goff, killed at Perote.
 2d. Lieut. Jacob Waelder, R.
 1st. Sergt. Arnold C. Lewis, appointed
 2d. lieutenant, R.
 2d. Sergt. Joseph W. Potter, discharged at Perote.
 3d Sergt. Dominick Devanny, R.
 4th Sergt. Joseph W. Miner, elected 1st lieutenant.
 1st. Corp. Wm. H. Beaumont, appointed 1st sergeant, R.
 2d Corp. D. W. C. Kitchen, wounded at Cerro Gordo and discharged.
 3d Corp. Chas. W. Stout, appointed lieutenant 11th Infantry.
 4th Corp. John B. Vaughn, discharged at Jalapa.
 Drummer Wilson B. Connor, discharged.
 Fifer Wallace J. Belding, discharged.
 Privates.
 Grandison Abel, R.
 Joseph Alward, R.
 John Barnes, left sick at Cincinnati.
 Alfred Bentley, died at Jalapa.
 Luke Burke, R.
 Obed C. Burden, R.
 William Bachman.
 Lloyd M. Colder, died at Perote.
 George Collings, appointed corporal, R.

Jacob L. Cooper, R.
 Wm. H. Carkhuff, died at Perote.
 James F. Dill, died at Perote.
 Thomas G. Dripps, appointed, sergt., R.
 M. M. Deberger, discharged at Vera Cruz.
 John C. Drinkhouse, do.
 James Ellis, do.
 Levi Emery, R.
 George W. Fell, R.
 Luke Floyd, wounded, R.
 Samuel Fox, discharged at Jalapa.
 Frederick Funk, R.
 Joseph C. Garye, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 Patrick Gilroy, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 Aaron Ganagawere, R.
 Magnus Gonerman, died at Perote.
 John Goodermoth, died at Puebla.
 Henry Hernbroad.
 Peter Hine, discharged at Vera Cruz
 Nathaniel G. Harvey, died at Perote
 Alexander Huntington, R.
 John Hunt, discharged at Jalapa.
 John Howard, R.
 David H. Howard, R.
 Anthony Haberholt, R.
 Charles Johnson, R.
 Patrick King, R.
 Lyman C. Kidder, discharged at Jalapa.
 Frederick Lehman, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 Joseph Leopard, R.
 Samuel A. Lewis, R.
 Charles W. Lutes, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 John W. Myers, died at Perote.
 John Morehouse, R.
 David R. Morrison, killed at Cerro Gordo.
 Walker B. Miller, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 Samuel Marks, R.
 John B. Price, died at Jalapa.
 John Preece, killed at siege of Puebla.
 Jules Phillips, R.
 Isaac Rothermell, died at Vera Cruz.
 James W. Rigg, R.
 John Shadell, R.
 Levi H. Stevens, R.
 James Stevens, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 wounded.
 John Swan, R.
 Hiram Spencer, discharged at Perote.
 John Sliker, died at Perote.
 James Sliker, R.
 Thompson Price, discharged.
 Wilson E. Sisty, discharged at Perote.
 Charles Tripp, died at siege of Puebla.
 George Tanner, died at Perote.
 William C. Toby, discharged at Jalapa.
 John Smith, died at Perote.
 Norman Vanwinkle, dis. at Perote.
 Holdin P. Vaughn, dis. at Jalapa.
 Gershon B. Van Gordon, died at Perote
 Edmund W. Wandell, R.
 Walsingham G. Ward, dis. at Vera Cruz.
 Thomas G. Wilson, died at Jalapa.
 William Vanderburg, R.
 William H. Whitaker, R.
 Thomas J. Wright, R.

Armon Westhoren, R.
 Daniel W. Witzell, R.
 William T. Wilson, R.
 Daniel W. Yariott, R.
 William Diamond, dis. at New Orleans.
 Elias Klinger, died at sea.
 Patrick O'Donnell, died at New Orleans.
 Samuel Knorr, lost, supposed killed.

Recruits at Puebla.

Augustus Ehles, R.
 Lanlan Fist, R.
 John Gaul, R.
 Charles Gordon, R.
 Ernest Gordon, R.
 William Hillsman, R.
 Frederick Musler, R.
 John McKeoun, R.
 Anthony Vernet, R.
 Michael Wolfstein, R.
 Henry Wehle, R.
 Adam Robinholt, died on Ohio River.
 George O'Craft, lost, supposed drowned.
 Total, 109, of whom 51 returned with the company.

Of all this number who served in the war with Mexico the writer has knowledge of only one who is alive to-day—Wallace J. Belding, now a resident of Washington, D. C. Of the 109 who went to the front 51 returned with the company. From their landing at Vera Cruz, through the long siege of that city, at Cerro Gordo, Molina del Rey, to the City of Mexico, they fought bravely and well. Many of them fought their last fight under the tropical sun of Mexico, whose rays long ere this have whitened and withered their bones to dust and ashes.

It is to be regretted that the organization of the Wyoming Artillerists has not been kept up. From 1842, through the rebellion, until 1882, it has an almost continuous organization and not long since after the disbandment of the platoon of Battery A, N. G. F., which was located at Wilkes-Barre (known as the Wyoming Artillerists) an effort was made in the 9th Regiment to have one of the companies to attach by proper adoption the name of the Wyoming Artillerists, but for some reason the matter did not take final action.
 C. Pow Dougherty.

LECTURE ON ANDREW JACKSON.

[Daily Record, March 26, 1896.]

The lecture on Wednesday in the high school building by Dr. E. T. Devine, under university extension auspices, was on Andrew Jackson, the Democrat. The lecture was interesting throughout and was supplemented at the close with stereopticon views.

The lecturer referred to his birth on the boundary between the two Carolinas, his family being extremely poor. He had little schooling and became a lawyer at the age of 19 after two years of not very close study. He passed from one success to another until he had filled stations in both houses of Congress and had become judge of the supreme court of Tennessee. None of his decisions have been preserved. He resigned this position and went into business and farming, where he made a reputation for successful industry and integrity, his promise to pay being as good as gold.

Mention was made of his marriage to a brilliant and good woman who mistakenly supposed herself divorced, and of the embittering of Jackson's life by the cloud which this cast over him. How he went around for twenty-eight years, ready to shoot on sight any one who taunted him on the affair, and how in 1806 he killed Dickinson in a duel for making unpleasant reference to the subject.

Jackson's brilliant military services were narrated—his part in the Creek War, the defense of Mobile, battle of New Orleans, and Seminole War. Description was given of his defeat for the Presidency in 1824, of his successful effort to reach the Presidential chair four years later, and of his declining a third nomination, even with certain success ahead if he had accepted.

The lecturer said Jackson's term was just midway between the old revolutionary system and the boss system. He was opposed to internal improvements carried on by general government and his fight against the United States bank and the removal of the government deposits therefrom practically brought about the panic of 1837.

DEATH OF MRS. J. B. STARK.

[Daily Record, March 31, 1896.]

Yesterday morning at 10:40 o'clock, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Edward W. Sturdevant, 93 South River street, occurred the death of Mrs. Frances R., widow of Jasper B. Stark. Death was due to heart disease and the end was calm and peaceful. Mrs. Stark was 70 years of age. She is survived by two children, Mrs. Sturdevant and J. Byron Stark of New York City.

Mrs. Stark was a daughter of Capt. Charles and Ruth Godfrey Smith and was born in Wurtsboro, N. Y., on Jan. 20, 1825. Her ancestors were of English descent and were among the earliest

settlers of Connecticut. Her father, who attained the rank of captain in the war of 1812, died at Carbondale in 1865. Her grandfather was Capt. David Godfrey, who received his commission direct from Gen. Washington. Mrs. Stark was a sister of John B. Smith, former president of the Pennsylvania Coal Co.

Mrs. Stark was well known in Wilkes-Barre and the Wyoming Valley and was generally esteemed. She was a member of the First M. E. Church and her consistent Christianity was shown in her every day life. Her nature was generous and charitable and many hours of her time were given up in the relief of poverty and distress. Her delight was in doing some good to others and on this account she earned the gratitude of many.

REV. DR. UMSTED'S DEATH.

Rev. Justus Thomas Umsted, D. D., of Coatesville, near Philadelphia, father of attorney T. C. Umsted of Wilkes-Barre, and a descendant of one of the old Pennsylvania families, died March 27, 1896, of a complication of diseases, after a three months' illness.

Deceased was born in Brandywine Township, Chester County, Jan. 22, 1820, and was, therefore, 76 years of age. He received his collegiate education at the University of Pennsylvania and his theological studies were pursued at Princeton. His fields of pastoral labors in the Presbyterian church have been as follows: 1848-9, South Bend, Ind.; 1850-3, Muscatine, Iowa; 1855-8, Keokuk, Iowa; Selma, Ill.; 1860-72, Faggs' Manor; 1872-6, St. George's, Del.; 1877., Smyrna, Del. He accepted a call to White Haven in 1887 and remained until 1892. During his pastorate at Faggs' Manor, Dr. F. B. Hodge, now of this city, was stationed at Oxford, six miles distant from Faggs' Manor, and a warm friendship sprang up between them. Rev. Dr. Umsted performed his last ministerial labors in White Haven, retiring from active service on his removal to Coatesville, on account of old age and declining health. He preached his last sermon Nov. 13, 1895. He received his degree of doctor of divinity from New Windsor College, Maryland, in 1884.

Rex. Dr. Umsted was a class-mate of Rev. Dr. William M. Paxton, who was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of New York for upwards of twenty years, and who is now professor of theology in Princeton Seminary. Dr.

Paxton told Rev. Dr. Hodge that Dr. Umsted was the best preacher in his class at Princeton Seminary.

Dr. Umsted was of old Dutch ancestry, his forefathers having come to this country in the year 1765. They settled in Montgomery County and were of the State and the historical incidents connected with the country at that period.

In 1846 Dr. Umsted married Isabella McMinn Wilson of Philadelphia, and by this union three children were born, who, with their mother, survive. The children are Catharine, now Mrs. T. W. Bellville, of Pottsville, Pa.; Eleanore (Mrs. Ed. Riebold of Delaware City, Delaware), and T. C. Umsted of this city.

The father of Mrs. Umsted, John Wilson, was a resident of Philadelphia and was principal bookkeeper in the Presbyterian Board of Publication until his death. He was a lieutenant in the war of 1812.

"OLD JIM BENNETT."

Wilkes-Barre, April 1, 1896.—Editor Record: Sir—An editorial in your paper of above date closes with the following paragraph: "The (N. Y.) Herald is a great news gatherer, but it is also a great toady. It is the Jenkins of American journalism and as such its opinions deserve no consideration from real Americans."

Knowing the Herald thoroughly I hold the above truths to be self-evident and think perhaps a reminiscence of the elder Bennett and the Herald may not be out of place in this connection. When the war of the rebellion broke out old "Jim" Bennett, who was always on the wrong side of every question, was a pronounced copperhead. He had, so the story went, a Confederate flag ready to fling to the breeze should public opinion render it safe to do so. But the first shot at Sumpter set the people's patriotism on fire and it was not safe. In fact crowds ran about the streets ordering people to show their colors. The Herald had no flag out and a big mob collected in front of the office, then at the corner of Fulton and Nassau streets and actually threatened to hang Bennett if he didn't show the Stars and Stripes. It was said at the time that the flag was borrowed for the occasion. Be that as it may, one was promptly hung out and the mob departed.

I can vouch for the above for I was one of the mob. Mr. Jingo.

A VETERAN DIES IN MEXICO.

[Daily Record, April 8, 1896.]

A letter was received in this city yesterday announcing the death of John Bauman, an old resident of this city, in Tobolodampo, Sinaloa, Mexico, on March 10, of a complication of diseases. Mr. Bauman was well known to the old residents of this county. He was born in Zurich, Switzerland, about seventy-five years ago. Before the war of the rebellion he settled in Hazleton, and for some time had charge of the Pardee Mills at that place. At the beginning of the war he enlisted in Co. G, 8th Regiment, Penn. Vols., Capt. John N. Reichard, for the three months' service. He was honorably discharged at the close of his enlistment, and again enlisted in Co. B, 7th Regiment, Veteran Reserve Corps, and was corporal under Capt. Morse. He was mustered out of service June 22, 1865. Deceased was an expert miller, and at the close of the war he removed to Wyoming, where he conducted the Shoemaker Mill for over twenty years. About seven years ago he went to Mexico, returning to Wilkes-Barre about three years ago. He remained here about a year, and returned to Mexico, where his death occurred.

Mr. Bauman is survived by his widow and six children, who reside in this city—Mrs. P. R. Raife, Charles, Frederick, Julia, Mrs. John Dobson and Anna.

THE PIONEER PREACHER.

[Written for the Record.]

The horrible deeds of the massacre on the 3d day of July, 1778, and other atrocities, left reminders throughout the whole valley, most of which time has obliterated, yet there still remain a few and Wilkes-Barre has landmarks to which this writing will refer.

The next day after the massacre, the British colonel, John Butler, demanded the surrender of Forty Fort, and by arrangement met Col. Nathan Denison and others in the cabin of Thomas Bennet, within the fort. The Rev. Jacob Johnson was invited to act as secretary, and the articles of capitulation were written by him, and after being signed by Butler and Denison, the fort and surrounding country was surrendered to his majesty's forces.

I give herewith a short sketch of the pioneer preacher, Jacob Johnson, drawn principally from the account published

by the Wyoming Memorial Association in 1878.

He is first noticed as a tall, dark-haired, studious boy, living with his mother in the town of Groton, Connecticut. He grew to manhood honoring the teachings of his pious mother, who designed him for the ministry. After his graduation at Yale he became pastor of the little church at North Groton, and from thence went to other churches. Forming the acquaintance of Sampson Occum, a Christianized Indian preacher, he became imbued with a desire to work in that wider field, and knew no rest until he had entered the great wilderness, the home of the Iroquois, and proclaimed the truths of the gospel of love and peace to the red man in his native forest.

Then we hear of him at Canajoharie, Fort Stanwix and Oneida Castle, he learned the language of the Mohawk, which served him well. He had received the protection of Sir William Johnson and gained the confidence of Brandt.

In 1770 he was appointed as a pioneer preacher by the "Connecticut Susquehanna Land Company" to preach the gospel in the Westmoreland Colony. Here he labored, unduring all the hardships of frontier life.

In 1772 he received a call from the settlers at Wilkes-Barre, and there preached in the new log court house that was erected in the public square.

When the British and Indians under Col. John Butler were pouring down through the north gap and spreading terror and dismay in the plain below, he, with other non-combatants, sought shelter in the little stockade, Forty Fort.

He was always somewhat eccentric, and as age crept upon him his eccentricity became more fully apparent. The proprietors of the town, in consideration of his faithful services as a gospel minister, granted him a tract of fifty acres of land, extending from Main street along North street—that of later years is known as the Bowman property.

In selling this, he reserved near the head of Franklin street, a piece five rods long and four rods wide, for a family burial lot. In the spring of 1791 he claimed to have a warning that upon a certain day, near at hand, he would die, and with feeble hands he prepared his own grave. It seems that his prophecy was fulfilled, and at the appointed time he fell asleep in death and his remains were deposited in the

grave in accordance with his instructions. Upon this burial lot now stands the beautiful Memorial Church, erected by the late Calvin Wadhams in memory of the children he had lost by death.

At the south corner of Main and North streets, directly opposite the Bowman corner, is the original Slocum property—where it is said Jonathan Slocum resided, and from which little Frances Slocum was taken into captivity by the Indians—a sad story that is familiar to most of your readers (*).

Here I will note a coincidence that forms, as it were, a connecting link between that transaction in Forty Fort on the 4th day of July, 1778, and the present day.

A few hundred feet from, and almost within the shadow of the lofty stone spire, near which was laid the body of the Rev. Jacob Johnson, there is a residence (**), within which now stands the table upon which he wrote, and upon which was signed those articles of capitulation that was to govern the matter of surrender. Moreover, this residence stands upon the original Slocum land, and upon, or very near, the supposed site of the home from which Frances Slocum was so mercilessly abducted. An illustrated description of this table is given in "Peck's History of Wyoming," on page 162.

Thus, 117 years after that eventful day, when all of humanity then existing has mouldered into dust, this simple household article remains in a fair state of preservation to remind us that we should cherish and keep alive the memory of our patriotic ancestors who endured such fearful trials and sacrifices in our behalf. Charles Myers.

Peoria, Ills.

Notes by the Editor.

* It is true the corner indicated was on the Slocum property, but it is now accepted that the Slocum house from which little Frances was stolen by the Indians stood on another portion of the property, near the corner of North and Canal streets, about where stands the Lee planing mill. Reference to this matter will be found in Historical Record, volume 4, page 74.

** The table is now in the possession of P. H. Myers, 133 North Main street, a brother of the writer of the above communication.

AN OLD SOUTHERN PAPER.

Speaking of old newspapers, J. A. Dorr, the Forkston lumberman, has an old one, so old in fact that it is claimed to be the first newspaper published in the United States south of the Mason and Dixon line. It is the first number of Vol. 1 of the Maryland Journal and the Baltimore Advertiser, dated Aug. 20, 1773. In making his bow to the public W. Goddard, the publisher, says: "I was aware when it was first proposed to me to undertake a newspaper in this town, that although it possessed many advantages in point of situation, yet it was impracticable to print such a one the Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and sometimes the British and Irish papers, and be enabled to publish the Journal with the freshest advices." Those "advices" would be pretty stale nowadays. As the first issue was published in dog days, one would naturally search for a snake story, and found the following:

"A few weeks ago a large rattle-snake was killed on a gentleman's plantation, in the neighborhood of this town, in the belly of which was found three middle sized rabbits. The snake had ten rattles, and was supposed to be about thirteen years old. That story differed from the rabbits only in being more than "middle sized."

Among the advertisements are Thomas Breton, commission and insurance broker, "has now for sale a packet of good hops, a 10-inch cable, and wants to buy a negro girl about 12 years old."

Another advertisement headed Mount Vernon, in Virginia, and signed George Washington, in which he calls attention to his having obtained patents for 20,000 acres of land in Ohio and Great Kan-hawa, and that he proposes to divide the land into any sized tenements and lease the same upon moderate terms, allowing a number of years rent free, only requiring a certain number of acres to be cleared each year. In his advertisement he says: "It is more than probable that the seat of government will be fixed at the mouth of the Great Kanhaw."

Ten pounds reward is offered for the return of an Irish servant, Owen Mc-

Carty by name, who had run away. The same reward was offered for the return of a negro, Prince, who had also made his escape.

THREE NOTED MEREDITHS.

Mrs. S. M. Meredith Graham, wife of Capt. W. G. Graham of Tunkhannock, has written a concise history of the three Merediths noted in the history of the country.

Rees Meredith came to this country in 1730 and made the acquaintance of Gen. Washington in 1755.

Samuel Meredith was the only son of Rees Meredith, born in Philadelphia in 1741, became intimately associated with Gen. Washington in the struggle for independence, distinguished himself in the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and in October, 1777, was commissioned general of the 4th Brigade Pennsylvania Militia. He served as treasurer of the United States under the administration of Washington, Adams and Jefferson, until Oct. 31, 1801, when on account of infirmity and failing health he resigned his office. Samuel Meredith in 1774 purchased large tracts of land in what are now the counties of Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wyoming, Bradford and Wayne, and many property owners in these counties trace their titles with much satisfaction to the Meredith estate. Samuel Meredith while Treasurer of the United States lent to the government almost his entire fortune, \$140,000, and this sum was never repaid to him or his heirs, and this generous and unselfish patriot lies buried in an unmarked grave near Honesdale. The granddaughter, Mrs. Graham, with most commendable loyalty to her dead ancestor, is urging upon the people the propriety of recognizing Samuel Meredith's services to his country in her hour of need by erecting a suitable monument to his memory. It is to be hoped that this act of tardy justice to the memory of a good man may be done and done soon.

The third Meredith was Maj. Thomas Meredith, son of Samuel Meredith, and father of Mrs. Graham. He was admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1802. He removed to Carbondale and was prothonotary and register and recorder of Wayne County from 1821 to 1823. He was in the war of 1812 and received the title of major in that war. The granddaughter's appeal to the patriots and sons of the Revolution is a touching and worthy one.

Mrs. Graham's appeal and history cover a neat pamphlet of seven pages. She has sent out a number of these little leaflets to prominent men, and among those who have responded and asked for additional copies to distribute among their friends are Daniel March Morgan, the present Treasurer of the United States, and Col. Nicholson of the Loyal Legion of Philadelphia. This appeal to the sense of justice of our people should not be in vain, and soon a granite shaft, pointing heavenward, should mark the spot where sleeps the first Treasurer of the United States.

JOHN BROWN OF OSSAWATOMIE.

The story of John Brown was graphically related in the University Extension course by Dr. Devine at the high school building Wednesday. This hero whose soul has been marching on in the songs of the people for a generation, was a New Englander, born in Connecticut in 1800. He was described as a representative of New England Puritanism, he being a direct descendant from one of the Mayflower pilgrims. He had an honorable ancestry and New England honored him. Probably no other man ever lived who more completely embodied the thing for which Massachusetts Puritanism stands. While his acts cannot be justified, he himself meant right, he embodied an inherited Puritan hatred of slavery and he gave his entire life to an effort, vain though it proved, to overthrow the accursed institution. His father before him was an abolitionist and he inherited the same hatred of slavery so thoroughly that not only at the age of 12 did he swear eternal war with slavery, but later he rallied his entire family around him in the heroic attempt to bring about abolition. He was religiously inclined and would have become a preacher but his eyes failed him. After that he successfully engaged in various occupations and lived in half a dozen States. He was bankrupted by the panic of 1837 and once or twice later, though never dishonestly so. In 1858 he turned his back on civilization and went to join Gerrit Smith's negro colony in the Adirondacks. He was developing the great plan of his life, he believing that he was called of God to strike the first blow for the liberty of the slaves. He sought retirement, in order to be away from the fire-eaters of the South and

the doughfaces of the North. He hoped for co-operation from the negroes, but was disappointed. At this time he wrote considerably for publications, and some of his writings are strongly similar in style to the Poor Richard of Franklin.

The speaker then considered the Kansas troubles, that territory being the first theatre of action, and Brown and his sons entered into a genuine war—a war for liberty in the face of the fugitive slave law and other iniquitous measures. His almost Quaker principles gave away to Puritan wrath and he and his sons took up the sword, some to perish by it. Popular sovereignty was defeated by frontier ruffians who crossed the border from Missouri and out was lost to liberty.

An account was given of the conflicts at Lawrence, Black Jack and Ossawatimie, and of the executions of the border ruffians at Ossawatimie, his own sons sharpening the knives for this bloody purpose, justified by them as a measure of self protection.

Going North he got influential friends to support his movement to take an armed squad into Virginia and run off parties of slaves. He hoped to be aided by the blacks and by the underground railroad people, but was disappointed. He was told that his plan was treason, both to Virginia and to the general government. He showed Garrett Smith and Sanborn in 1858 that he had the men and the arms and all he wanted was \$800 and silence. He got the aid, and if what we know now had been known at that time several who subsequently became conspicuous would have shared the gallows with him.

Here the speaker gave a graphic account of his attack at Harper's Ferry in 1859, his capture of the town and the United States arsenal with a dozen men or so, and the helplessness of the citizens until Capt. Robert E. Lee arrived with a company of marines and captured the arsenal. The speaker told of the trial and conviction of Brown and his men, the vain efforts all over the country to have the government of Virginia commute the sentence to life imprisonment. Even slave apologists wanted his life spared, not out of mercy to him, for he deserved hanging, they said, but for fear it would increase the growing hostility to slavery. During the six weeks which intervened between his sentence and death on the gallows, he made such burning speeches and wrote such stirring sentiments that

he did more to throttle the accursed institution by crystallizing public sentiment than in all his previous life. Under the shadow of the gallows he predicted that the curse of slavery could only be wiped out with blood.

How his prediction was verified will be told in the closing lecture a fortnight hence, when Dr. Devine will consider Abraham Lincoln.

ACCOUNT OF THE SUGARLOAF MASSACRE.

For the following interesting contribution to the history of this region the Record is indebted to H. M. M. Richards of Reading, secretary of the Pennsylvania-German Society:

The Sugar Loaf Massacre.

That we have entered upon an era of renewed love and pride of country, the sure proof of a true and proud patriotism, is evidenced by the general desire to know more of its history, and the search for details in the events especially of that period which gave birth to it as a nation.

Amongst these events is one of great interest to Luzerne County, but which has heretofore not received the attention it deserves, nor been given the publicity it needs. Although it seems to herald but the massacre of a handful of patriotic soldiers from Northampton County, under the command of Capt. Klader, yet this very tragedy was instrumental in ridding the locality of many who were secretly aiding the British cause, much to the detriment of their more loyal neighbors.

It need hardly be said that when the colonies revolted against English authority there were still many who remained firm in their allegiance to the crown, and even took up arms against their former friends. They were the so-called "Tories." Others, again, with fully as much sympathy for the royal cause, were deterred from openly aiding through cowardice, because of religious principles, as with many of the Quakers, or for various other reasons. These reasons, however, did not prevent their giving secret aid and information to the enemy, thus rendering them even more dangerous and difficult to deal with. They were wolves, but in sheep's clothing.

Where the flourishing towns of Bloomsburg and Catawissa now stand were then settled people of both the classes just named. That they affiliat-

ed with the enemy, gave them succor when needed, and furnished them constantly with information detrimental to the cause of independence, as well as hurtful to their neighbors, seems beyond doubt, as their plantations and homes stood unharmed, their property, produce and cattle remained untouched, and their wives and families went peacefully about their daily work when everything else about them was a scene of desolation, ruin and murder. Then, too, it must be remembered that the aid rendered the enemy by the one meant not only danger to the other, but, often, death for himself and those he loved, with a total destruction of all his means, because the loyal patriot had there to contend but rarely, if ever, with the civilized British soldier alone, but rather with his auxiliary, the barbarous savage. After suffering this state of affairs for some years we are not surprised to find that, in the latter part of the summer of 1780, the loyal settlers determined to put an end to it and to make a demonstration against the Tory settlement. Acting upon their complaints to the council of safety for Columbia County, as well as President Reed himself, at Philadelphia, and, probably in accordance with orders to that effect sent him, Col. Hunter, at Fort Augusta, Sunbury, the commanding officer of the district, decided upon aggressive operations, and arranged with Capt. D. Klader of Northampton County, to join him in the enterprise. Unfortunately the Tories, through their spies, were enabled to learn of this design, and, still more unfortunately, were, by chance, enabled to impart it to their friends, the enemy, in the following manner:

On Sept. 6, 1780, a body of British and Indians, numbering some 250 or 300, appeared before Fort Rice, in Lewis Township, Northumberland County, on the headwaters of the Chillisquake, some seventeen miles from Fort Augusta at Sunbury, of which the two-story stone building is still standing, and made a vigorous attack on it, which, however, was gallantly repulsed by Capt. Rice, of Col. Weltner's German Battalion, who, with twenty men, occupied it. Col. Hunter immediately ordered the garrison at Fort Jenkins, on the North Branch of the Susquehanna, midway between Berwick and Bloomsburg, in Columbia County, and other troops, to their relief, at the same time warning the settlers of their danger, who, thereupon abandoned their plantations and

accompanied the soldiers. Upon the arrival on the scene of Col. Kelly with 100 men, and Col. Purdy, from the Juniata, with 190 more, the enemy broke up into smaller parties and retreated in different directions, destroying every thing in their path. To one of these parties, numbering not less than forty British and Indians, was the information given by the Tories of the movements of Capt. Klader and his design upon their settlement. Leaving Fort Rice, they proceeded, by way of Knob Mountain and Cabin Run, to Fort Jenkins, which had been abandoned, where they applied the torch, not only to the fort itself, but to everything in its vicinity. The well inside the fort was filled with the charred remains of the logs and buildings, and everything destroyed except a young orchard planted by James Jenkins and just beginning to bear. The enemy then proceeded up the river to the site of the present town of Berwick, where they crossed over and followed the path leading from the Susquehanna to Northampton, a distance of about seven miles from Nescopeck. Here, in Sugarloaf Valley, southwestern part of Luzerne County, they lay in ambush, awaiting the arrival of their unsuspecting victims.

In the meantime Capt. D. Klader, with his command, comprising a detachment from Capt. John Van Ethen's company of Northampton County volunteers, after toiling laboriously to the summit of the Bucks Mountain, had taken the path leading by the "old toll house," thence down the side of the mountain, through a ravine, over the farm of N. Wagner and across the creek below, until they came to what had been a Scotch settlement, but now, because of the border troubles, wholly deserted. To their great delight they saw before them open and cleared fields, covered with a luxuriant growth of grass and beautiful with wild flowers. Weary as they were with the fatigue and hardship of their long march, when for days they had been tearing their way through thickets and bushes, and clambering over logs and stones, they voted the Free Soil advocates. Kansas seemed to have entered upon a veritable paradise. It was noontide of the 11th day of September, 1780. Knapsacks were immediately unslung, and they entered upon the enjoyment of the hour. The very beauty of their surroundings lulled to rest all thought of danger. No one seemed to realize the necessity of watchful care. Each roamed about

as best suited his fancy. Their guns were scattered here and there, some stacked, some leaning against stumps or logs, others lying flat on the ground. The position of the men resembled that of their firearms. Some were on the ground indulging in a smoke, one man was leaning against a tree with his shoes off cleaning them out, others had gone for grapes, which grew there in abundance, of which party one had climbed a tree and was picking and eating the grapes from the vine which entwined it.

Suddenly, whilst in this condition, a volley of musketry was poured in upon them from an unseen foe, and, with it, rang out the terrible war whoop of the savages who, in a moment more, were in their midst hewing down their victims with the murderous tomahawks. Some escaped, and one or two were taken prisoners, but most of them were killed. A great uncle of the Engle brothers, now living in Hazleton and vicinity, escaped over Nescopee Mountain. Abram Klader, brother of the officer in command, concealed himself in Little Nescopee Creek, by clinging to a tree that had fallen across the stream, and keeping his face only above the water until the enemy had disappeared when he emerged from his concealment and succeeded in reaching home. Frederick Shickler also escaped on Buck Mountain by avoiding the Indian trail, leaving it to his right, and keeping out of sight of the Indians, whose yells he could hear as they followed on in pursuit. Lieut. Myer, Ensign Scoby and a private soldier were taken prisoners; the lieutenant escaped whilst the other two were taken through to Niagara.

The man in the tree after grapes was shot and fell heavily on the ground beneath. Some were killed in one place and some in another as they fled and were overtaken by the merciless tomahawk of the savage. One soldier, whose name cannot now be designated, escaped part way up the ravine in the mountain, down which the troops had marched, and there hid himself, but, unfortunately, his too faithful little dog, that had followed him, barked and revealed his hiding place to the enemy by whom he was slain. A comrade, hid in a tree top near by, was a witness to the occurrence.

As soon as the result of this action became known Col. Balliet, with a large company of men which was immediately raised, proceeded to the spot and buried the bodies of ten who lay slain

in close proximity to each other, all of which had been very much disfigured by the Indians. Capt. Klader, himself, did not succumb until after performing deeds of valor which caused his name to be viewed with feelings akin to veneration. He is said by some to have killed four and by others, seven of the enemy before they finally slew and scalped him.

Later on Col. Hunter directed Van Campen to take a company of men and see what further discoveries could be made. He scoured the entire field and decently interred the remaining bodies found, which were in such an advanced state of decomposition as to make it impossible to handle them. Stretchers were made of blankets fastened to poles on which the bodies were carefully rolled, carried to the graves, prepared for them and lowered or rolled into the same.

C. F. Hill of Hazleton, to whom I am under obligations for much valuable material in this sketch, says: "The body of Capt. Klader, with others of his party, lies buried on what is now the farm of Samuel Wagner, about half a mile from Conyngham. We visited Wagner's farm, not long since, in the company of S. D. Engle of this borough, and were conducted by Anthony Fisher, a man whose locks are whitened by the frosts of ninety winters, to the spot where the brave Klader rests, but no traces of the grave can now be seen. The oak tree, under whose branches he lay, and upon which were the initials of his name—D. K.—was sacrilegiously cut down seventeen years ago, and even the stump is decayed and gone. Mr. Fisher, many years ago, was intimately acquainted with John Wertz, who had belonged to the party that buried the slain, and marked their leader's grave by cutting the initials spoken of above. As the old man leaned on his staff and surveyed the spot, he gave expression to feelings of deep regret that the tree was not permitted to stand as a memorial of the heroic deeds of those by-gone days."

The following names comprise the list of soldiers lost in the Sugarloaf massacre, as taken from Capt. John Van Etten's muster roll bearing date Fort Penn (in the present town of Stroudsburg, Monroe County), January 15, 1781. This is probably but a partial list, as it gives but fourteen killed and three taken prisoners, whilst it is claimed that the total loss ran up to twenty-two.

It will be noticed that the name of Abraham Clider (Klader) is included. This is a mistake, as already explained. He escaped whilst his brother, the captain, was slain:

Killed.

Capt. D. Klader—Exact location of his grave is known by several persons still living.

John Weaver.

Baltzer Snyder.

Samuel Bond (corporal).

John Kouts.

Abraham Clider (Klader)—Incorrect, as explained.

George Peter Renhart (Reinhart).

Peter Croom.

George Shilhamer.

Paul Neely.

Abraham Smith.

Jacob Arndt.

Philip George.

James McGraw.

Jacob Row.

Prisoners.

John Meyer—Second lieutenant, acting as commander after Klader's death, was captured, but escaped.

James Scooby—Ensign, to which grade he was advanced on Sept. 1, just ten days before capture.

Peter Tubalt Coons.

For more than a century the bones of these brave men, who gave up their lives for their country, have lain neglected and almost forgotten. They were called upon to suffer much. May the day soon come when a tablet will mark their last resting place, and, on each Memorial Day, a few flowers be strewn on their graves, as well as those of their comrades of other wars.

This massacre thoroughly aroused the inhabitants and the military authorities. Col. Hunter decided to put an end to the intrigues of the Tory Settlement, and directed Capt. Robison to take his company and bring in its people, saying: "If they were not friendly to the British cause it would be better for them to be removed, and if they were it was vastly important they should be taken from a point where they had the opportunity of causing so much mischief to the country."

The reader will readily understand Col. Hunter's position. Whilst there was no doubt as to the guilt of these people yet they had, so to say, never been caught in the act, and their guilt had never been proven. Under these circumstances the only action which could be taken was of a lenient character, such as proposed. To entirely justify the expedition, however, it was most

desirable to prove that the suspicions of the authorities and loyal people were not unfounded. To this end, when the troops had reached Mahoning, crossed the river and proceeded as far as Roaring Creek, on their march to the Settlement, Ensign Moses Van Campen, with the consent of his captain, disguised himself as an Indian, and, accompanied by his friend, Capt. Salmon, likewise disguised, who was serving as a volunteer on the expedition, started for the Tory Settlement with the intention of testing the inhabitants. The first house they reached was that of a hunter named Wilkison, upon whom they rushed with uplifted tomahawks as though intent upon his instant death. He at once dropped upon his knees and begged for his life, assuring them that he was "a king's man and a friend to Indians." As they still appeared sullen, though they lowered their weapons, he prepared a meal for them to further ingratiate himself with them, and, while they were eating it, he informed them that the settlement, which lay before them, "belonged to king's men who were friendly to the Indians, having often supplied them with provisions." The pretended Indians then expressed their pleasure at the fact, and, in broken English, asked to be taken to all who were their friends. This was done, and, in each case, a kind reception given them. Informing the people that they belonged to a large party of warriors who were in need of provisions they were supplied with all they could carry, and, still accompanied by Wilkison, who aided them in carrying their packs, they retraced their steps. Of course, in a short time they were captured by Capt. Robison's command and Wilkison was threatened with death if he did not guide them back to every one who had supplied them with provisions. This he did, which resulted in the seizure of all the "king's friends," who were duly confronted by their former Indian guests, in proper apparel, and their guilt proven.

Having thus successfully accomplished his object, Capt. Robison returned to Northumberland with his prisoners, where their case was laid before Col. Hunter, who, being disposed to leniency, released them upon their pledge to leave the frontier settlements and not return until the close of the war.

H. M. M. Richards.

Reading, Penna.

[Persons interested in the Sugarloaf massacre will find further information in the Historical Record, vol. 2, p. 125 and p. 167.—Editor.]

MILITARY HOSPITALS OF THE REVOLUTION.

[Daily Record, April 11, 1896.]

The "Military Hospitals of the Revolution" was the title of an address made last evening before the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. There was a large attendance and John W. Jordan, who is an officer of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and of the Sons of the Revolution, was listened to with marked interest. The address was scarcely more than half an hour's length, but in that short space presented a great deal of interesting history. The particular military hospitals of the Revolution described by Mr. Jordan were those located in Bethlehem, Northampton County, this State. The paper told how the reverses of the American army had compelled the taking of the hospitals away from the shifting seat of war and how Bethlehem was chosen by reason of its extensive buildings belonging to the Moravians, which could be converted into hospitals. Besides this it was surrounded by a fertile country, rich in supplies. Mention was made of the Sun Inn at Bethlehem which sheltered Washington, Lafayette, Steuben and other distinguished officers, and reference was made to the removing of the famous liberty bell from Philadelphia to Bethlehem to prevent its falling into the hands of the British, then about to capture the city. There are no records of these hospitals at Bethlehem. There were as high as 700 sick and wounded there at one time and the mortality was so great from exposure incident to inadequate conveyances and to infectious fever that there were at least 500 deaths. Quite a number of the surgeons and attendants lost their lives with the fever. There was also an outbreak of small-pox. The mortality was so alarming that the facts were suppressed lest the distressing state of affairs should discourage the soldiers in the field.

The following persons were elected to membership: Jane A. Shoemaker, W. S. Carpenter, Esther S. Norris, George S. Ferris, Alice McC. Darling, W. D. White, John Laning, William Stoddart.

After the address the Sons of the Revolution held a meeting for the consideration of routine business.

THE PENN TREATY TREE.

Philadelphia, April 10, '96.—Arbor Day was fittingly celebrated here to-day notwithstanding the inclement weather. The most important of the celebrations was the planting by Governor Hastings on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania of a shoot from the old elm tree under which William Penn made a treaty with the Indians. The planting was part of an interesting program prepared by the Forestry Association of Pennsylvania. The governor, who is president ex-officio of the board of trustees of the university, planted the sprig in honor of the first governor of this Commonwealth (William Penn.) The old elm stood on the banks of the Delaware River in this city until 1810, when it was blown down. Later the ground on which the tree had stood came into possession of the ancestors of Gen. Paul A. Oliver of Wilkes-Barre. Here they found a shoot which had sprung up where the old tree stood and this they removed to a farm at Bay Ridge, N. Y., where it grew for fifty years and became almost as large as the original tree. Gen. Oliver several years ago removed the tree entirely from Bay Ridge to his place on the Wilkes-Barre Mountains and it is from this tree Governor Hastings was handed a shoot to-day. Provost Harrison of the University of Pennsylvania and other prominent persons took part in the exercises. To-night in Drexel Institute addresses appropriate to the occasion were made and a reception was tendered Governor Hastings. The day was also observed by public scholars and teachers and by members of the civic clubs.

A VENERABLE LADY.

[Daily Record, April 16, 1896.]

Mrs. Lucretia Perrin, who makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Salmon Lewis, at Mt. Zion, in Exeter Township, on Wednesday reached her 103d birthday anniversary, and the event was celebrated in a quiet way, many of her relatives and friends from West Pittston and neighboring places calling to pay their respects to the venerable lady, says the Pittston Gazette. Mrs. Perrin's general health continues good, and she is able to be about the house and to converse freely. Her sight, however, is failing.

Mrs. Perrin was born in Andover, New Hampshire, April 15, 1793, as recorded in her old family bible. Her father, Joshua Danforth, was a Revolutionary soldier, and served throughout the war, a term of seven years and five months. When quite a young girl she removed to Queensbury, Warren County, N. Y., near Saratoga Springs. She was married when about 20 years old to Abiathar Shippey, who was some five years her senior. They had a family of thirteen children. Mrs. Perrin's first husband died in 1840, and three years later she was married to Calvin Perrin of Northmoreland. He died some thirteen years ago at the age of 90.

Three years ago, upon the occasion of Mrs. Perrin's centennial anniversary, members of her family to the fourth generation assembled to the number of about eighty and celebrated the rare event.

ONE OF THE OLD SETTLERS.

Miss Lydia Keithline, who died April 3, 1896, was born Dec. 16, 1810. Andrew Keithline, her father, came to the valley in the year 1804 from New Jersey, and her grandfather, Charles Keithline, with two brothers, came from Germany before the Revolution and served in that war. She is survived by one brother, of La Porte, Ind., and the late Mrs. A. Mill was her sister.

DEATH OF COLONEL MERCUR.

Col. James Mercur died April 21, 1896, at Fortress Monroe in Virginia. Col. Mercur was about 50 years of age. He was the son of the late Henry S. Mercur of Towanda, who was in the coal business in Pittston; a nephew of the late Judge Ulysses Mercur of Towanda, whose died last week, and a brother of E. G. Mercur of West Pittston, and was related to the Mrs. of Wilkes-Barre. He was graduated from West Point Academy early in the sixties, and afterward received a commission in the regular army. For several years past he has been located at West Point as a professor in the department of the engineering. During the past year Col. Mercur had suffered much from dyspepsia and two weeks ago, when an unusually severe attack came on, he went to Fortress Monroe in hopes of recovering his health. That he was in a dangerous condition was not realized by his relatives and the news of his death was therefore all the more distressing.

THE PARTY OF JEFFERSON.

Charlottesville, Va., Ap'l 13, '96—Under the auspices of the National Association of Democratic Clubs the 153d anniversary of the birth of Thomas Jefferson, the founder of the Democratic party, was celebrated to-day at Monticello, where the author of the Declaration of Independence lived and died.

At 12 noon the special train from Washington, D. C., arrived bringing a distinguished party of national Democrats. Among these were Vice President Stevenson, Postmaster General Wilson, Attorney General Harmon, Secretary of the Navy Herbert; Senators Jones of Arkansas, Faulkner of West Virginia, Pasco of Florida, George of Mississippi, Martin of Kansas, Mitchell of Wisconsin, White of California and Roach of North Dakota; Representatives Sulzer of New York, Washington of Tennessee, Clardy of Kentucky, Livingston of Georgia, Swanson of Virginia, Tucker of Virginia, Pendleton of Texas, Tyler of Virginia, Patterson of Tennessee, Williams of Mississippi, Lawson of Georgia, Turner of Georgia and McGuire of California.

The formal proceedings began with an address by the Hon. Chauncey F. Black, whose enunciation of the sentiment of Jefferson, that the primary principle of Democracy was "absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority," was heartily applauded.

Ex-Governor Russell of Massachusetts was received by the crowd with ringing cheers. His many patriotic allusions and points were rapturously applauded.

When Senator Daniel of Virginia arose to speak his popularity in his native State was made plainly apparent by the enthusiasm with which he was received. He pictured to his audience in eloquent periods the prominent traits of character of Virginia's gift to the national Democracy—Thomas Jefferson.

After his eulogy of Jefferson, Senator Daniel referred to the speech of Governor Russell, and said he must be excused if he failed to see anything in Jefferson's teachings which summoned us to abandon the bi-metallic money system which Jefferson himself helped to establish. He concurred with Governor Russell that Jefferson would never have made an issue between Colorado and Wall street, or between a debtor and a creditor class, or upon any geographical division, but he asserted that it was the Republican party, and not the party of Jefferson, that did

that very thing in 1873, in stripping silver of its equal coinage right with gold; that it was Wall street and Lombard street that were the aggressors, not Colorado, nor the West; not the debtor class. But, said the senator, I am not going to stay at odds with our distinguished friend at the grave of Jefferson. There was one thing that Jefferson said about money which we will concur in, and that is "that one warm thought is worth more than money," and giving him the warm thoughts that one upon his native hearth should feel for an honored guest, I would venture to say to him, as Falstaff said to Prince Henry: "No more of that Hal, as thou lovest me." Indeed, we will have here to-day the free coinage of warm thoughts on the double standard of Massachusetts and Virginia, and I am willing to amplify the code of our Democratic comrade, Tim Campbell, of New York, and say for to-day at least: "Neither money nor the constitution ought to come between friends."

PASTORS OF FIRST M. E. CHURCH.

The following list of ministers who have served the Franklin M. E. Church during the period from the time the congregation moved from Public Square to Franklin street, together with the years of appointment, has been prepared by Theron Burnett:

- Rev. Thomas H. Pearne, 1848, 1849.
- Rev. Nelson Rounds, 1850, 1851.
- Rev. George Peck, 1852, 1853.
- Rev. William Wyatt, 1854.
- Rev. Henry Brownscombe, 1855, 1856.
- Rev. John M. Snyder, 1857, 1858.
- Rev. Zachariah Paddock, 1859.
- Rev. Jacob Miller, 1860, 1861.
- Rev. John A. Wood, 1862, 1863.
- Rev. Young C. Smith, D. D., 1864, 1865, 1866.
- Rev. Henry Brownscombe, 1867, 1868.
- Rev. Thomas C. Reese, 1869, 1870, 1871.
- Rev. Albert Wyatt, 1872, 1873.
- Rev. W. H. Olin, D. D., 1874, 1875, 1876.
- Rev. J. E. Smith, D. D., 1877, 1878, 1879.
- Rev. Samuel Moore, 1880, 1881, 1882.
- Rev. J. O. Woodruff, D. D., 1883, 1884, 1885.
- Rev. A. H. Tuttle, D. D., 1886, 1887, 1888.
- Rev. W. L. Phillips, 1889, 1890.
- Rev. J. R. Boyle, D. D., 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895.
- Rev. W. H. Pearce, D. D., 1896

SON OF A REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIER.

In the early part of April, 1896, occurred the death at Hartleton, Union County, Pa., of John Hoffman, who before his death was believed to have been the only living son of a Revolutionary War soldier in this State. His age was 97 years. He was an uncle of Mrs. Charles Fegley of Orwigsburg, Schuylkill County, who is the mother of County Treasurer Reed of Luzerne County. Mr. Reed has spent considerable time in looking up the military record of Cornelius Hoffman, father of the deceased. Cornelius Hoffman was a private in Capt. Bowers's company, 6th Regiment of the Continental line, in the War of the Revolution. The regiment was commanded by Col. Josiah Harmen. He enlisted Sept. 10, 1777, in Capt. Bowers's company, and served faithfully during the war, being discharged in 1783. He died Jan. 3, 1832, aged 87 years, in Orwigsburg.

John Hoffman, his son, whose death is above mentioned, had a couple of sons in the War of the Rebellion. Shortly before his death he visited his niece in Schuylkill County, and had intended to come to Wilkes-Barre, but was prevented from doing so on account of illness.

Treasurer Reed's greatgrandfather on his father's side was also a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was buried in Womelsdorf, Berks County.

George E. Ransom says there are now living in Jackson Township, Luzerne County, Ira Ransom, and at Elkhorn Grove, Carroll County, Ill., Miner Ransom, sons of George Palmer Ransom, who enlisted in his father's company at the age of 14 and served during the Revolution. Ira Ransom was born Oct. 11, 1822, and served in the War of the Rebellion in Co. D, 143d Regiment, Pa. Vol. Infantry.

MILITARY ORDER OF FOREIGN WARS.

Benjamin F. Dorrance of Dorrance-ton was recently elected a member of the Pennsylvania Commandery of the Military Order of Foreign Wars of the George Dorrance. This is a patriotic order composed of the lineal descendants in the male line only of commissioned officers who served in the various foreign wars of the United States ie., the war of the revolution, war of

1812, war with Tripoli and Mexican war. It was founded by Generals G. W. Smith, Fitz John Porter, Pinto, Webb, Hatch, Viele and others. Its insignia is the eight-pointed star, having in the center the American emblem and the motto "Deus et Libertas." It has veteran and hereditary companions and is an invitation society.

LEXINGTON'S ANNIVERSARY.

[Daily Record, April 21, 1896.]

It certainly takes the women to do things up in fine style, as was demonstrated last evening, when the Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the anniversary of the opening engagement of the Revolution—that at Lexington and Concord. The exercises were held in the Historical Society building and the room was packed full—too full for a hot night. The hot interior was made hotter by emblazonment of American flags so numerous as to almost shut out the atmosphere. The draping of the flags was very prettily done, and from the ceiling hung a Pennsylvania coat of arms flag. On mantels, window sills, library tops and floors were pots of palms and from the incandescent light red, white and blue globes blazed over the assemblage. A vase of roses stood on the regent's table. It was a particularly patriotic occasion. The members of the patriotic societies—the several tribes of Daughters and Sons, were present in their glittering badges and all who could not trace descent from someone who fought in the Revolution were sorry for themselves.

After singing of "America" by the audience, Oppenheim's orchestra accompanying, the regent, Mrs. Katherine S. McCartney, read a carefully prepared historical study of the condition of the colonies just prior to the outbreak of hostilities with the mother country, and the causes which led to the Revolution, following these with a graphic picture of the opening engagement at Lexington and Concord. Mrs. McCartney's effort was particularly enjoyed.

Paul Revere's historic ride from Charlestown to Lexington, to alarm the patriots with the message flashed out from the lantern of the old North Church that the British had marched to attack the settlements was recited by Miss E. B. Gule, teacher of literature in the high school.

At this point the award was made for the best original essay on Benjamin Franklin, for which the Daughters had offered a prize of \$15. There were eight entries. Col. G. M. Reynolds reporting for the committee, stated that the essays were all so meritorious that a decision had been most difficult. However, the committee awarded the prize to "Scholasticus," though "Mayflower" was a close second. On opening the sealed envelopes containing the names of the contestants it was found that "Scholasticus" was W. H. Swift, Jr., of Honesdale, son of Rev. W. H. Swift, first pastor of Memorial Church. Young Swift, who is a pupil of Harry Hillman Academy, was present, and was called up to receive the award amid enthusiastic applause.

The prize essay was then read by Mrs. G. M. Reynolds. It proved to be an admirable study, not only presenting the facts in the thrilling life of America's greatest statesman, but commenting thoughtfully on his character and his varied influence upon the world.

The committee on award, through Alexander Farnham, yielded to a request that the names of all the competitors be announced, the list being as follows:

"Mayflower"—Catherine May Brooks.
 "Frances Linn"—Louise Park Atherton.
 "Quasiter"—John G. Smyth
 "Catherine Lea"—Alice Rhone.
 "Civitas"—Lewis Harmon Hitchler.
 "Molly Pitcher"—Henrietta Hartman.
 "Jued Ecnal"—Julia Edith Lance.

The girls are pupils of the institute and the boys of the academy.

It was mentioned as an interesting incident that among those who heard the essay on Franklin was a great-great-grandson, Rev. Dr. Franklin B. Hodge.

Some vocal selections by Mrs. H. H. Harvey added to the zest of the occasion.

After the benediction by Rev. Dr. H. L. Jones the gathering became informal in character and the company was refreshed with apollinaris lemonade, served from a capacious punch bowl.

DESCENDED FROM PENN.

Readers of the Record are more or less familiar with the reference from time to time to the claims set up for the ownership of certain lands in Luzerne County originally belonging to William

Penn. One of these claimants is Reverdy Penn Davis of Washington, and he is now in town with his attorney, R. Dorsey Trundle, of the Washington bar. The land claimed by Mr. Davis is near Nanticoke and is a part of the Sunbury Manor laid out by the Penns in the last century. It is located at the mouth of Harvey's Creek and is on both sides of that stream, running back up to the mountain. Mr. Davis and his lawyer did the Alpine act yesterday by climbing up the precipitous approaches of the mountain and taking a survey in their minds of the valuable tract they hope to occupy. On this tract is the Nanticoke Water Co.'s reservoir and the Harvey mines. Mr. Davis once wrote a letter, which appeared in the Record, that awakened the people who are on the old Sunbury manor tract, and they were so much impressed with his claims that some of them proceeded to make leases with him. Mr. Davis claims that the Penn estate never disposed of such Luzerne County lands as he is claiming. He maintains that he is the nearest living relative of William Penn, a great-great-great-grandson, and consequently the heir of the historic founder of Pennsylvania.

In addition to his extensive interests here, Mr. Davis claims that he is heir to the valuable tract of land known as "Hope's Lot," which lies adjacent to the city of Baltimore. Among other curious papers in his possession, Mr. Davis has a deed bearing the signature of his great - great - grandfather, the first owner of "Hope's Lot." This was John Penn, a grandson of William.

Mr. Davis is a son of Charlotte Penn, who, in 1866, crossed the Atlantic in a bark. For more than a month the vessel was tossed about at sea, and about the time that Mrs. Davis's American friends were mourning her as dead, the plucky woman was entering her claim for the Penn pension. At that time the British government was distributing £4,000 annually to the heirs of William Penn, but she never got any of it, and in the course of a few years, probably because the government assumed the heirs had run out, or the pension had run enough, the same was discontinued. An excellent picture of this lady is now in the possession of her son, Reverdy Penn Davis, and is looked upon by him as being more valuable in establishing his claim to the Penn estates than any of his legal proofs and genealogical records, as she strikingly resembles the family pictures of her famous ancestors.

Following in his mother's footsteps,

Mr. Davis, with his attorney, will visit England in about two month's time for the purpose of securing his property there, as his titles to his claims will, he hopes, be settled prior to that time. Despite his noble extraction, Mr. Davis is quite an unpretentious citizen, and, unlike most Americans who can lay claim to such distinguished ancestry, he is entirely un-English. Mr. Davis is employed in the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

As far as his rival claimant, William Dugald Stewart, is concerned, Mr. Davis has little to say, except that his claim to heirship is no stronger than his claim to be an officer in the British army, it is not very strong. There is no such officer on the army rolls, nor is there any record in Great Britain of any such heir to the Penn estate as William Dugald Stewart. Mr. Davis claims for himself that he can from living witnesses prove that he is a great-great-grandson of John Penn, and by documentary evidence that the latter was a grandson of William Penn. If he can to this he will be all right.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING.

The Historical Society held its quarterly meeting at the rooms of the society May 8, 1896. In the absence of the president, Judge Woodward, who was unexpectedly called away, Rev. Dr. Jones occupied the chair.

The secretary reported that since the last quarterly meeting 177 volumes and pamphlets had been received and properly classified. Many of these were of decided value to the society.

The following were elected to active membership: John D. Farnham, E. E. Hoyt, E. Constine, Alexander B. Cox of Drifton, Sterling Ross Catlin, Mrs. C. D. Foster, William Loveland of Kingston, J. H. W. Hawkins, Mrs. Dr. Guthrie.

Mrs. William Griffith of Pittston was elected an honorary member and William Griffith of Scranton and J. K. Griffith, of Latrobe, Pa., corresponding members.

PLYMOUTH'S OLDEST RESIDENT.

[Daily Record, May 4, 1896.]

Mrs. Elizabeth Rickard, who was the oldest living resident of Plymouth and a descendant of one of its first families, died Sunday morning at 10:30 at the home of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Dr. E. G. Rickard, in that place. The de-

ceased had reached the advanced age of 88 years and 5 months, having been born Dec. 4, 1807. Throughout her long lease of life she always enjoyed good health until the past year. From youth she had been a member of the Christian Church and until weakened by age took an active part in church work. The deceased was born in that part of Plymouth which is now known as Lance Hill and all her life she has spent there. She lived to see Plymouth develop from a sparsely settled village to one of the most prosperous town in the coal region. What is now the principal business and resident portion of the town was in her youth mostly a swamp.

Deceased came from old Revolutionary stock. Her grandfather, Jacob Gould, emigrated to the valley in 1772 from London, Richfield County, Conn., and settled at Plymouth. Her father, also named Jacob Gould, was born on the emigrant train while crossing the Wilkes-Barre Mountain. At the breaking out of the Revolutionary War he enlisted in the Second Independent Company for revolutionary service under Capt. Ransom and fought with distinction. The family has been noted for longevity. Mrs. Rickard was one of a family of seven, four brothers and two sisters, and was the last survivor. All of them lived to attain an age of not less than 76 years.

The deceased was married in 1826 to John Rickard and their union was blessed by three children, two of whom died in infancy. Mr. Rickard died in 1841, which left Mrs. Rickard a widow fifty-five years. Their only surviving child, Dr. E. S. Rickard, who was a leading physician in Plymouth for years, died in 1893. The nearest relatives of the deceased now living are her grandchildren of whom there are five, all residents of Plymouth. They are John B. druggist, and Misses Stella, Daisy K., Mary V. and Emma Gould Rickard. There is also one great-grandchild, Helen Rickard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Rickard.

BETHLEHEM'S OLDEST CITIZEN.

[Bethlehem Times, April 25, 1896.]

Bethlehem's oldest citizen, John W. Lynn, whose death occurred yesterday morning at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. J. F. Walp, was born in Germany on May 23, 1805, and was the fifth of ten children—eight son and two daughters—of the late John Lynn and his wife Catherine, m. n. Wasser.

When he was 1 year old the family came to America and located in Lower Saucon. There he followed farming until he took to learn the carpenter's trade. In those days an apprentice worked from sunrise to sunset. On Oct. 9, 1831, he wedded Miss Matilda Bachman, who was the daughter of the late farmer Solomon and Elizabeth Bachman, who was one year his junior. The ceremony was performed by the late Rev. Mr. Brobst of Easton.

Mr. Lynn and his bride located near Shimersville, where he carried on the undertaking business for a number of years and engaged in the contracting and building business. He superintended the razing of the old homestead in Lower Saucon and erected on the site a more modern edifice, which stands to this day. From 1826 until 1871, a period of forty-five years, he was in the contracting business and erected many fine homes hereabouts.

Early in the seventies Mr. Lynn and wife moved to Bethlehem. He shortly afterwards retired from business. His wife preceded him to the grave, departing this life at the ripe age of 81 years and 4 months. Up to a year ago Mr. Lynn enjoyed good health. He was active—very active—at the age of 90 years. Early last spring he suffered a stroke of apoplexy, which rendered him bedfast. It was a severe attack and yesterday resulted in his death.

The deceased was esteemed and respected by all who knew him. He was the father of eight children—a son, Thomas Lynn, died twenty years ago, and a daughter, Miss Louisa Lynn, departed this life a year before the death of her mother.

His surviving children are: Elias B. Lynn of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. John F. Walp and Mrs. Joseph H. Moyer of Bethlehem, Benjamin B. Lynn of Catsauqua, Mrs. Albert Laubach of Freemansburg, and Milton B. Lyonn, Bethlehem's well known house painter. There are living besides fourteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A WYOMING CAPTIVE.

In 1846, John F. Watson, author of the "Annals of Philadelphia," and member of the historical societies of Pennsylvania, New York and Massachusetts, published his "Annals and occurrences of New York City and State in the olden time," a copy of which is now in

the Osterhout Library. Among many "incidents and memories" may be found the following:

"It was my happiness to have had the advantage of being accompanied along the Mohawk in the year 1828 by Mr. Parrish, many years the Indian interpreter and agent. He had been captured near the Wyoming settlement, in Pennsylvania by the Indians, when he was a lad of 11 years of age, and had been led along with the army of predatory Indians and Tories, who destroyed the settlements along the Mohawk in the Revolutionary war. Having thus seen with own his eyes the things there done and being 7 years a captive, he was qualified to give abundant information of all the things then passing under our notice in travelling on as far as Canandaigua, where he resided. He spoke five Indian languages, was given up at Fort Stanwix to his liberty, was afterwards for thirty years interpreter and has left a fortune honorably attained. He was a fine looking, large man, of gentle manner and disposition. He had a ready manner of imitating all the Indian manners and ways. He died in March, 1836."

DEATH OF SQUIRE MARCY.

At his home in Duryea, Marcy Township, May 4, 1896, occurred the death of squire John S. Marcy, one of the best known residents of the county, at the age of 75 years. Deceased has been ailing for about three years with a complication of diseases, although he was about much of the time.

Deceased was born in Marcy Township Nov. 21, 1821, and was a son of Ebenezer and Susanna (Adams) Marcy, who lived in Marcy Township, but were descendants of a New England ancestry. They were among the earliest settlers in Luzerne County. Deceased was educated in the common schools and worked on his father's farm for some years, then accepting a position in a Wilkes-Barre store for a year. He returned to the farm until 1860 and then went into the grocery business. A year later he joined Co. G, 52d Pennsylvania Volunteers, and participated in many of the engagements of the civil war. In 1864 he returned home and again settled upon the farm, which has been in possession of the family for 120 years.

Deceased was united in marriage August 7, 1843, with Mary F., daughter of Lieut. Peter and Eleanor (Jacobs) Coolbaugh, and their union has been blessed

with nine children, three of whom are living—Joseph W., Gertrude J., Bertha E. Those deceased are: Sarah A., born 1844, died Dec. 2, 1889; Martha Rose, born 1846, died April 30, 1872; Edwin B., born 1850, died Aug. 11, 1883; Charles S., born 1852, died Aug. 10, 1855; Hannah F., born 1856, died Dec. 13, 1879.

THE LIPPINCOTT FAMILY.

Mrs. Catherine Lippincott, a former well known and esteemed resident of Wilkes-Barre, died April 27, 1896, at Joliet, Ill., at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. K. Knowlton. She was born June 26, 1807, near Towanda, Bradford County, Pa. She was the daughter of Henry Salisbury, who was an officer of New York militia during the revolutionary war. She was married to Joseph Lippincott at Mauch Chunk, Feb. 18, 1832, who was of a Philadelphia family. Their wedding was an event in the early days of Mauch Chunk, and attended by Asa Packer, founder of the Lehigh University; George Law, the Leisenrings, and many others whose names have since become famous in that vicinity. They made their home in Mauch Chunk for nearly twenty years. Then, after four years abode in Ithaca, N. Y., they removed to Wilkes-Barre, where they resided until Mr. Lippincott's death in 1877.

Mrs. Lippincott was a member of the Episcopal Church, always active in church work, and in various charitable organizations. In Wilkes-Barre she was a charter member of the board of the Home for Friendless Children. During a great part of this century, she has witnessed in church and State, and with great interest, every step in progressive civilization, having lived in the present and in the long ago. She leaves the memorial of a well spent life, the heritage of a good name, the blessed memory of a faithful wife, a loving mother and sister, an earnest Christian beloved by all, while her life has been to her family and friends a benefaction.

THE WYOMING FOLLETT.

An interesting contribution to Wyoming history is a volume, the title page of which reads as follows:

"The Follett-Dewey, Fassett-Safford ancestry of Capt. Martin Dewey Follett (1765-1831) and his wife Persis Fassett (1767-1849), being a compilation of family records and extracts from various

histories, official records and genealogical publications relating to the Folletts of Windham, Salem, Wyoming Valley and Vermont. * * * together with accounts of the settlements of Wyoming Valley and Vermont, the Wyoming Valley massacres, * * * by Henry Parker Ward, Columbus, Ohio, 1896."

The author, Capt. Ward, is a member of various historical and patriotic societies, including the Wyoming Historical Society, and his book will be greatly enjoyed by students of history. It comprises about 250 pages, and is enriched with illustrations. Some of the latter are local to the Wyoming Valley, including Forty Fort in 1778, Wyoming monument, and a map of the valley in 1778.

The oldest Follett noted is Robert, of Salem, Mass., born about 1625. He had a son Benjamin (1676?-1752), who had a son Benjamin, born about 1715, at Windham, Conn., died in Wyoming Valley in 1788 or a little prior thereto. He was married in 1736 to Hannah Woodward, who died in 1757. They had nine children, of whom Eliphalet, born 1741, was killed in the battle of 1778.

It is said of Benjamin Follett that he was one of the original members of the Susquehanna Company in 1753 and took an active part in the first settlement of Wyoming. He was one of the first 40 settlers. All the histories mention him in connection with the early settlement, as being a member of important committees. He figured just as prominently, too, in the long Pennamite controversy.

His son Eliphalet was 37 years old at the time he was killed in the massacre of 1778. While endeavoring to escape in the frenzy of defeat Eliphalet was pursued into the river by a tory who shot him dead. The widowed mother and her six children struggled through the wilderness to Vermont. They never returned to Wyoming. The children at the time of the massacre ranged in age from 13 years to 2 years. One of them died from the exposure of the flight and the mother had hardly terminated this fearful journey through the wilderness than she gave birth to a child.

Eliphalet had a half brother, Frederick, who was 17 years old at the time of the massacre. In an Indian attack on the settlement subsequent to the massacre, probably in 1779, he was shot, stabbed seven times and scalped, but under the skillful treatment of Dr. William Hooker Smith he astonished everybody

by getting well. One spear thrust had penetrated his stomach and his recovery seemed impossible. Of all the Wyoming Folletts Capt. Ward's book gives much interesting information, as also of all the other families included in this interesting volume.

Capt. Ward has gathered a great deal of valuable data, not only drawn from various histories, but from original sources. It might be criticised by genealogists as not conforming to conventional customs. For instance, in referring to individuals the very convenient method of using figures to denote the generation, the author uses the years of birth and date parenthetically, a method which is awkward, to say the least. But it is a pity such an otherwise valuable work should be marred by lacking an index. In these days of historical research any unindexed book is behind the times. If Capt. Ward should issue a second edition it is to be hoped he will add an index and thus make his interesting and valuable material more available to students of history. The price of the volume is \$4.

IN MEMORY OF TAMINA.

[Daily Record, May 12, 1896.]

To-day among the Red Men will be celebrated what is known in the order as Tamina Day.

Tamina was a famed Indian hunter and warrior, whose death occurred presumably between the years 1683 and 1685; for in the former year the first treaty for the purchase of lands by William Penn with the red men was concluded and is dated April 23, 1683. In that treaty Tamina and Metamequam relinquished their right to a tract of land lying between Pennypack and Meshanning creeks. In the treaty dated May 30, 1685, the name Taminend does not appear. By some the wigwag of Tamina has been located where Princeton College now stands. Tradition has it that long before the discoveries of Ferdinand De Soto or La Salle, Tamina and his people inhabited all the land west of the Alleghany Mountains and northward of the Ohio River, besides the land included by Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The legends tell of this great chief waging war for many years with his mortal enemy, the Evil Spirit, and from the waters of the rising sun, and from the father of waters, the great Salt Lake in the land of the setting sun, his deeds

were recounted at every council fire—the tales concerning his prowess and courage exceeding if possible the myths related in song and story concerning the Grecian Hercules. Tamina's government was patriarchal, mild, but firm. His people looked up to him as their father, and referred their disputes to him. His decisions were always law. Plenty pervaded his land, and his people were contented and happy. Many of the most beautiful ceremonies and symbols of the Improved Order of Red Men are adopted from the legends of Tamina and his people, and this day is observed in celebration of the primitive purity of the people under his sway.

THEN AND NOW.

Charles Law of Pittston sends an interesting reminiscent letter to the Carbondale Leader. In the course of this letter he says:

"In 1842 my father went down from Carbondale to Wilkes-Barre to get his final papers of citizenship, and I often contrast the condition of transportation in this valley then and now. He went down on Len Searles's stage on Monday so as to be in court on Tuesday. Bue the stage went down Monday and back Tuesday a. m. so a passenger on court business could not get back on the stage until Thursday. Well now we can start every twenty minutes on the electric or every ten from Pittston alternately on either side of the river by electric roads and we have eighty railway trains a day on the steam railways between Pittston and Wilkes-Barre. At that time he visited the opening of the 28-foot vein of the Baltimore Coal Co., at that time the largest known. I heard him make the prediction that the time would come when Wilkes-Barre would be the 'centre of the anthracite coal trade, for nowhere on the known earth was there anything like the Wyoming coal basin with the giant 28-foot vein of fine anthracite.' When I first saw it ten years after it looked like a mountain standing on pillars. Now the great enemy of the anthracite mines, fire, has burned out the old place, and Rodgers's Geology of Pennsylvania has a frontispiece cut of it as it was then.

"I often think what a contrast there is between a modern pay car with its corps of clerks and the elder James Archbald with his moleskin suit walking over the road from Carbondale to Honesdale with the money in his inside vest pocket and paying the men at work

along the road, when he was the judge, jury and lawyer to settle the disputes between neighbors who had differences of opinion about things. They deferred to him, having implicit confidence in his honesty and judgment, and the community was better off a long way than in these days of extended litigation. There were some of the old Scotch families, the Douglas, Maxwell, Campbell, Bryden, Clarkson, Archbald, Law, Watts and later Vannan and Nichols that have left their posterity to carry on the work of building up the Lackawanna and Wyoming valleys. I am glad to say most of them are true sons of the old stock and help along the world's work. The old have passed away, but the new era of progress is with us and old Carbondale holds her own with the others in the front rank."

WYOMING CONFERENCE 44 YEARS OLD.

On the 7th of July, 1896, the Wyoming Conference of the M. E. Church was forty-four years of age, for on July 7, 1852, at Carbondale, Pa., its first conference was held with Bishop Scott presiding and N. Rounds secretary. At its opening session sixty-two members responded to the roll call. Of these there are yet living Revs. G. M. Peck, H. R. Clark, C. V. Arnold, Asa Brooks and G. W. Leach.

At the conference Y. C. Smith was received on trial, while C. L. Rice and Jasper W. Hewitt were admitted into full connection. Three districts constituted the conference—Newark, Susquehanna and Wyoming. Wyoming district consisted of twenty-four charges and embraced a territory extending from Newark on the south to Beech Pond and Pleasant Mount on the north and from Lackawaxen on the east to Skinner's Eddy on the west, being territory now belonging to the Wyoming, Honesdale and Owego districts. The presiding elder of this, then territorially great, district was Rev. D. A. Shepard and his salary was \$568.

Wilkes-Barre paid its one pastor a salary of \$550, that being the largest salary paid any pastor in the whole conference, the next highest being \$500 paid by the First Church of Binghamton, N. Y.

DEATH OF MRS. SPERRING.

[Daily Record, May 18, 1896.]

Mrs. Jane Ann Sperring, widow of William H. Sperring, died on Saturday morning at 8:25 o'clock at her home, 65 Ross street, of peritonitis, aged 65 years.

Mrs. Sperring for some years had been an invalid and since the death of her husband in 1882 had not gone out much.

The children who survive are Mrs. L. J. Fogel, Mrs. Dr. Mebane and Misses Mary, Helen and Blanche Sperring. Mr. Sperring was a prominent grocer for a number of years, his store being on the Square.

Deceased was born Jan. 19, 1831, at Plains, and was the daughter of Thomas and Catherine Ann (Hartman) Stocker. Her father was born in Forks Township July 29, 1800, and was a son of John and grandson of Adam Stocker, of German stock, prominent citizens and land owners of Stockertown, Pa. In 1816 he removed to Luzerne County and was married in 1821. His father at one time owned 200 acres of valuable coal lands which were purchased for an old shotgun. Because Mr. Stocker did not know their value they were permitted to be sold for the taxes. Thomas Stocker worked as a carpenter and by his industry saved enough to purchase considerable real estate. He was noted far and wide as a successful hunter. He was reared in the German Reformed faith, but he, with his family became identified with the First Presbyterian Church, this city, in which he was an elder, and later with the church at Plains, which was erected largely at his expense. He was charitable and beloved by the poor, especially the miners living in his neighborhood, many of whom sought his advice and counsel. He died Jan. 7, 1878, and his wife passed away Jan. 24, 1880. They had four daughters—Mrs. William Sperring, Mrs. Helen Stark, deceased; Mrs. D. D. Wilcox and Miss Tammie Stocker, Plains.

Mrs. Sperring was a woman of many graces, and was loved and esteemed by all who knew her. The best interests of the family and friends were always near to her heart and she was always industrious in performing kindly acts. She was especially endeared to her family and the domestic ties were ideals of happiness.

GIFTS TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

[Daily Record, May 23, 1896.]

A most valuable collection of Indian relics has been presented to the Wyoming Historical Society by Mrs. Andrew J. Griffith of West Pittston and the same

was brought to town Friday by Rev. Horace E. Hayden and F. C. Johnson, officers of the society. The specimens were so numerous as to make a whole wagon load. The represent many years patient collecting by the late Mr. Griffith and are with a few exceptions all local to the Wyoming Valley. It is undoubtedly one of the largest collections ever made in this region, yet Mr. Griffith was so modest concerning it that few persons outside his family ever knew there was such a collection. The specimens include stone axes, ceremonial stones, deer skinners, arrow and spear points, net sinkers, lapstones, pestles, Indian paints, beads, pipes, fragments of pottery, and probably others not included in the above notation. There is a fine specimen of a pot, unfortunately in fragments, but they are in such good condition that they can probably be restored. Some of the spear points are splendid specimens.

Besides the Indian relics there is a collection of geological specimens from what is called drift. They are water-washed stones found along the Susquehanna River, full of many curious fossils, all of which have been washed down the river from the State of New York. No such specimens are native to Wyoming Valley, but they have been found by Mr. Griffith in considerable profusion. While such specimens are not rare, yet it is doubtful if any collection of them has ever before been made. If this be true, the collection will have great value. They are to be submitted to Professor Heilprin of the State Geological Survey for classification.

There are also many other interesting specimens, among them pieces of peat from the marsh on which the Scranton court house is built, the same having a layer of what looks like pure anthracite coal, but which when found was of the consistency of jelly. Still other interesting specimens are of mineral charcoal, in which there is a combination of anthracite coal and charcoal, the grain of the wood being unmistakable.

In arranging this splendid collection for exhibition the society will be fortunate in having the help of Mr. Griffith's son, William Griffith, of Pittston, the well known mining engineer whose recent scholarly articles on coal have been running in the Record. Mr. Griffith is a graduate of Lehigh University, class of 1876.

EARLY DAYS OF WILKES-BARRE.

Men now living, a very few, call to mind with the ease with which age remembers by-gones, many curious and quaint features of the beginnings of Wilkes-Barre. Some who have passed ahead, through private correspondence, have left a legacy of reminiscence which is peculiarly interesting and valuable.

The late Rev. David Jewett Waller of Bloomsburg was a correspondent and friend of the writer. His latest communication, written in September, 1893, just previous to his death, contains much that I presume has never appeared in print. To tie up these recollections in the budget where they belong and also to interest and please many readers and friends of the daily Record, I take this letter, three closely written fool's cap pages, and a few other scraps available, as a fountain from which to draw some brief sketches of early days in Wilkes-Barre.

The old church on the Square, a fair reproduction of which is here given, was the first building erected mathematically in Wilkes-Barre and probably in Northeastern Pennsylvania. It was built for the settlement as a place for general public gatherings, mainly of a religious character. It occupied one of four triangles at the intersection of Market and Main streets, which were then continued through the Square from east to west and from north to south. The other segments were occupied by the public buildings, which were cheaply constructed and of modest appearance, and the old Academy, which had great fame as an educational centre. "Old Slip Zion" had a wonderful steeple which was noted far and near, and from it rang the curfew, proclaiming silence throughout the village every night at 9 o'clock.

About 1824, says Mr. Waller, Anthony Dow was a classical student in the Academy, and his cousin, Robert Blennerhasset, was among the younger pupils. Mrs. Dow and Mrs. Blennerhasset (the latter a famous woman of a quite famous family, prominent in Colonial history) lived at Moyallen, on the elevation on the road to Solomon's Falls. The sisters were notable characters in Wilkes-Barre, residing here temporarily for the education of their sons. They were ladies of fine physique, with handsome fresh countenances and were great walkers, appearing to enjoy the wilderness and picturesqueness of adjacent scenery greatly. Often the town boys

tracked them by the clogs they wore which made circles in the sand or mud wherever they went. They afterward returned to England or Ireland.

Early in the century and in the days of brightest fame of the old Academy, Phineas Waller, father of the "Waller boys," drove from Wilkes-Barre to Washington City to visit his brothers-in-law, Abram and Phineas Bradley, who were then first assistants, and the first ever appointed, to the Postmaster General of the United States. They were born in Hanover, below Wilkes-Barre, and were in office until the administration of Andrew Jackson.

Wilkcs-Barre was then regarded superior to Washington in educational advantages and Dr. Phineas Bradley sent his two daughters by Mr. Waller to Wilkes-Barre to attend school. Sally Hollenback, daughter of Matthias Hollenback, became a crony of the Bradley girls and later visited them at their home in Washington, where she met a young clerk in the postoffice department named Cist—Jacob Cist—a Russian by birth. It was a love affair of first order, but the differences in their social positions appeared to be an insurmountable barrier to matrimony. Dr. Bradley sympathized with Sally and with his zealous clerk and sent Jacob to Wilkes-Barre, with a commission as postmaster. Mr. Hollenback could not object seriously to a government officer as a prospective son-in-law, and Mr. Waller quaintly says, "guess the sequel."

Since Jacob Cist was the father and Sally Hollenback the mother of Mrs. A. T. McClintock, recently deceased, and they have still descendants who are honored among us, the little romance is not without interest even after the flight of many years.

The contrast between the present appearance of "the old town," as it is often called, and the period of 1820 and thereabouts, when the now progressive city was but a small borough, is striking indeed.

Let no one imagine, however, that there was slowness or crudeness among the population, or that it was anything else but a live town, with business hustlers and social conditions of a superior character.

The men who were the pioneers of Wilkes-Barre were brainy men, and the common testimony is the ladies of that period were ladies indeed, who could

shine for their worth and their culture and their beauty anywhere. Their style may seem quaint to us, but as history repeats itself that very quaintness comes again to the front and the fair daughters of the present scan them admiringly and exclaiming, "Oh, isn't it lovely—perfectly lovely!"

Said one of the remnants of the long ago to the writer not long since—her bright eyes sparkling with mischief as she spoke—"Strange that those mothers and fathers who were so simple minded and whose misfortune it was to live in those benighted times, should have such smart sons and daughters."

Those who know know that those days were not benighted, and that Wilkes-Barre was a centre of highest culture when the nineteenth century was in its babyhood. Even in colonial days, it should be borne in mind, that the settlers of Wyoming Valley were from the cultured homes of New England and that they brought with them and made a part of their new life that refinement which has been the honor of New England from the landing of the Pilgrims.

It is not invidious to mention among the leading spirits of early Wilkes-Barre Thomas Cooper, an early president judge, George Griffin, Thomas Burnside, Rensselaer Wells, Ebenezer Bowman, John Banister Gibson and Thomas Dyer, shining lights of the bar in those days. These and many others, contemporaries and more recent, are samples of learning and social influence not easily surpassed. We may add to them Garrick Mallery, Daniel Scott, Luther Kidder, John N. Conyngham, George W. Woodward, and other names still familiar to the generation now living, yet honored among us. And then, of physicians, Drs. Whitney, Covell and Crary; of clergymen, Jacob Johnson, Ard Hoyt, Cyrus Gildersleeve, Nicholas Murray, and John Dorrance; James Campbell, George Lane, Gaylord Judd and George Peck; Samuel Sitgraves, Enoch Huntington and James May.

But those were Puritan days. Witness the following excerpt from the court records:

December term, 1782. "Mary Pritchard is found guilty of unnecessarily going from her place of abode on the Lord's Day, on the 10th of November last, therefore that she pay a fine of five shillings, lawful money, to the town treasury and costs."

The corner of Northampton street and South River was in the early days the center of life and business. It was in line with the Easton pike, whose stages came direct to the popular hostility of Judge Jesse Fell. The travel was then continuous, by ferry from foot of Northampton street, across Kingston flats, a long since abandoned road. Local records are silent concerning the bridge controversy of this period. It was nevertheless an epoch in Wilkes-Barre history. Mr. Waller says Josiah Lewis, Gen. William Ross, Matthias Hollenback, Judge Gibson, Josiah Wright, Lord Butler, John G. Arndt, "The Wyoming Herald," the Philadelphia Bank, the stage headquarters and old Michael, with other weighty citizens, were for a bridge at Northampton street, while the Court House, Judge David Scott, Isaac Bowman, Jonathan Hancock, Peleg Tracy, Judge Burnside, Arnold Colt and "all the accretions of centrality" were drawing towards Market street. Probably the higher ground on the west side had much to do with the final decision, which changed the tide of events and left Northampton street and vicinity to beautiful homes, while Market street became the business thoroughfare. George M. Hollenback, with keen business foresight, in the midst of this agitation and suspense, built his dwelling and store at the corner of Market and River streets, which from that day has been the most valuable business location of the town. The site of the Hollenback store is the present Coal Exchange. Dr. Edward Covell, Thomas Dyer, Thomas Moffat and "The Susquehanna Democrat," with an equal eye to the main chance, located on South Main street as certain of a desirable location. It must be remembered that the Northern and Southern suburban lines were not far distant from these two leading streets, and that the canal and railroads and vast coal interests which have made Wilkes-Barre what it is and gave its future promise were then an unknown quantity.

River street, with its extended frontage upon the Susquehanna, it was thought by everybody, would be the face of the greater Wilkes-Barre, and since it was here that a ship building scheme was inaugurated; here that river navigation promised so much; and here that coal shipping by arks and barges initiated the great coal trade of

the Wyoming region, no wonder. The first stone dwelling in Wilkes-Barre (and there were no brick buildings at that time) was built on South River street by Jacob Cist, who is said to have been one of the most progressive citizens of his progressive generation.

Coal introduced itself. It may be said of the present coal trade, it was born in Wilkes-Barre. If we couple with it the prophesy that some one has made that Wilkes-Barre is destined to be the greatest coal city of the future the fact may some time have a greater significance. The first discovery of coal in Pennsylvania properly belongs to the Indians, but, like the whites who came after them and succeeded not only to their discovery but to their land, they knew nothing of its value. It was about as difficult to demonstrate the worth of our anthracite in the beginning of the present century as it would be now to convince the world of the value that lies buried in the rocks and stones, which the Eastern farmer considers himself cursed with.

"No, I don't own all this land," said one of this sort concerning lands now worth a thousand dollars per acre. "I am not as poor as you think I am."

In the beginnings of Wilkes-Barre many a denizen of the beautiful Wyoming Valley was "land poor."

The first coal was found along Nanticoke Creek, where the waters had cut their way through and the black diamond was exposed like any other stratum of rock. It was called in the beginning stone coal. The Nanticoke Creek vein was seven feet thick. A nine-foot vein was found at Plymouth, on Ransom's Creek. Other veins were located at Pittston and points along the Susquehanna and Lackawanna rivers. There were newspapers in Wilkes-Barre then and in two flourishing towns, Dundaff and Bethany, but the enterprising reporters never mentioned these discoveries. Coal was for years regarded more as a curiosity than an article of utility. Blacksmiths were the first to use it as fuel. Probably Judge Jesse Fell of Wilkes-Barre first used it successfully in an open grate. Judge Fell was a keen spirit, up to and ahead of his times. The writer has seen and read much of his correspondence, but in coal literature his memorable entry in an old Masonic hand book, now the property of the Historical Society, ought to have first place. We give its language exactly:

"February 11th, of Masonry 5808, made the experiment of burning the common stone coal of the valley in a grate, in a common fire place in my house, and find it will answer the purpose of fuel, making a clear and better fire, at less expense, than burning wood in the common way.

Jesse Fell."

"Borough of Wilkes-Barre, February 18, 1808."

The late John Torrey of Honèsdale, shortly before his death, which occurred in March, 1894, described to me his own experience in making the stuff burn. Somebody had brought to the home of his father, Jason Torrey, in Bethany, a load of this stone coal, but it was no good and was dumped at the roadside as useless, and there it lay for years. Young John paid a visit to his kindred in Wilkes-Barre, and while roaming the country with the boys, George Woodward, Amzi Fuller and others, he came upon a blazing fire in an open grate near a coal mine, which was being attended by a workman. Mr. Torrey says he stopped, while the rest of the company went on. "Is that stone coal burning like that?" he said. "Yes, young mister," said the genial workman, "and it's a fire to warm a fellow up, I can tell you." "Show me how you do it," said young Torrey, thinking all the while of the despised heap at Bethany. The secret was found to be a good draft and no poking. Mr. Torrey found his way back to his quarters in Wilkes-Barre alone, the other boys having wondered why he skipped them. Next day he hastened homeward, and soon had a coal fire of the refuse heap, which was the first successful use of the stuff in the then flourishing town of Bethany. I do not know that he made any record of the transaction, but it is hardly a tradition, for I had the story from the lips of Mr. Torrey himself.

The first cargoes of coal to reach Philadelphia from these regions were two ark loads, thirty tons, in 1803. It found no market and could not be even given away. Instead of burning it those who gave it any heed at all declared that it put the fire out, and it was broken and scattered upon the streets for gravel. Several parties were threatened with arrest for imposing upon the people, and the ridicule which was heaped upon them was well nigh unbearable.

Still they persisted, but it was more than twenty-five years before the coal trade was really born.

It was Wilkes-Barre grit that won the day. Col. G. M. Hollenback, Charles Miner and Jacob Cist, with other determined spirits, soon began to see the fruits of their faith. The flat boat was superseded by canals from 1828 to 1856. Until about the beginning of the war of 1861 such a thing as a railroad, other than gravity roads, carrying coal was unknown.

We need not say what hath God wrought? It is not irreverence to say, What hath man wrought?

F. A. Dony.

COAL IN NEW YORK FORTY YEARS AGO.

W. K. Humphrey, a veteran in the coal business, has furnished to the Ithaca Journal an interesting account of the introduction of coal as fuel in Central and Western New York. In 1851 Ithaca was the distributing point for Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and points West, the coal being shipped by canal. All over this section of the State the fuel burned was wood, and the coal men found it very difficult to introduce coal. Mr. Humphrey recalls the fact that in October, 1851, shortly after the first load of coal arrived in Ithaca, he shipped to Mr. Barker, in Buffalo, 300 tons of coal. The coal was taken to Buffalo by canal by Captain B. L. Johnson. After it arrived there he received word from Mr. Barker stating that the coal had arrived, but that there was no market for it. This coal had been invoiced to Mr. Barker gratis, he having only to pay the canal charges. It was so valueless to him, however, that he would not even do this. Mr. Humphrey directed Captain Johnson to deliver the coal to Mr. Barker without any charges whatever, and that man unwillingly accepted it. It remained in his possession nearly a year, during which time he managed to ship a part of it to Western cities.

In Syracuse they knew nothing of coal. Mr. Humphrey shipped a lot of coal to Syracuse, and to introduce it got one of the hotel men to use it. In order to gain this concession Mr. Humphrey bought a coal stove of Treman, King & Co. and presented it to the hotel man, and he burned coal all that winter.

Rochester was an extremely hard city to introduce coal into. The coal was shipped from Ithaca to an agent there. The agent had to give away stoves, and, further, had to show the people how to start the fire. Some would fill the stove

with coal, put a piece of paper on top, light it and expect it to burn, and when it failed to ignite send word to the agent to come and take back his stove and coal, as it was no good.

Mr. Humphrey states that the first coal train rolled into Ithaca over the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western R. R. on Oct. 15, 1851. Word that the train would arrive had spread around the city, and when it reached there over 1,000 people were at the station to see the train and the coal. The people swarmed around the train and took pieces as curiosities, the major portion of those present never having seen coal. In these days it was called stone coal. The canal men termed it mineral coal. In Ithaca very little coal was used before that time. Mr. Humphrey used some at his office, which was brought to him by canal men at his special order.—Coal Trade Journal.

AFTER A HALF CENTURY'S ABSENCE.

[Daily Record, June 13, 1896.]

"Backward, turn backward, Oh Time in your flight,
And make me a boy again just for tonight."

In the days "lang syne" Thomas H. Morgan was the landlord of the "Old Arndt Tavern," on the present site of the Darling house on South River street. The family was a large one—three daughters and four sons. The eldest daughter, Ann, married David Wilmot and removed to Towanda. All the family are now deceased except John, the oldest son, who visited in this city yesterday, after an absence of over fifty years. He is now 75 years of age. He found a few of his old playmates, and was astonished at the growth and prosperity of his boyhood home. E. S. Loop, C. E. Butler and S. H. Lynch were his most intimate companions in the days when the old stage coaches left his father's hostelry in the early morn. with George Root on the box, for Easton. To say that the reunion was a pleasant one and that the past was raked over and old stories and incidents brought to light, making them boys again, would be but a faint portrayal of the joys that they tasted while comparing experiences and plying the catechism of memory to revive the charming reminiscences of boyhood's halcyon days.

AN ANCIENT SURVEY.

[Daily Record, June 10, 1896.]

There was entered for record in the recorder's office yesterday a certified copy of an ancient map of Wyoming Valley, the original being in the State archives at Harrisburg. The survey was made in 1768 for the Penns, who had laid out two manors here, one on the West Side, 20,000 acres, called the Manor of Sunbury, the other on the East Side, about half as large, including present Wilkes-Barre, called the Manor of Stoke. The Manor of Sunbury was about nine miles long, and extended from the mouth of Harvey's Creek, present Nanticoke, to a point a little above a point opposite Mill Creek. Fronting on the Susquehanna, it reached back over the Kingston Mountain. The Manor of Stoke was not quite so long, and reached back from the river about two and one-half miles.

The map has many interesting features. For instance, at the mouth of Toby's Creek on the west side of the river below the island, is marked "stone coal," showing how early the presence of anthracite was known. It had been exposed to view by the spring freshets which washed out the bank at the sharp bend of the river near the present Woodward breaker. It should be noted that the island has undergone great change in form. At that time it was a double island, the larger one, at the mouth of Toby's Creek, having now been washed entirely away. The smaller island, about one-third as large, is as we see it to-day.

Wilkes-Barre of course was not on the map, though a village, noted as Wioming, is located about where the Harry Hillman Academy now stands. It was on the lower side of a small stream which flowed into the river at what has of late years been known as the ice pond, in front of the academy. There was a store of some kind, as one is marked at a point at what is now the foot of Northampton street, as shown by its being directly opposite in line between certified Kingston and Plymouth townships. Leading from this store, out present Northampton street, is the "path to Wind Gap."

At the Plymouth Island on the west side is an old Shawnee Indian town, and a couple of miles further down, across the river, is an old Nanticoke Indian town, a little below Butzbach's Landing.

The streams are all shown with great accuracy, Mill Creek, Moses (now Solomon's) Creek, as also unnamed streams bearing the modern names of Toby's Creek, Harvey's Creek and Laurel Run. The site of Plymouth was occupied with a pine woods.

Following along the west side of the river is a path leading from present Sunbury to Wialusing. The falls at Nanticoke are noted as Wioming Falls.

The map is being placed on record by E. H. Chase, who is attorney for William Dugald Stewart, whose claim, as an heir of the Penns, to certain lands in Wyoming Valley, has been published in these columns. As the matter is still in the courts, the copy of this ancient map at Harrisburg is being recorded here for greater convenience. The Penn lands were confiscated by Pennsylvania during the Revolution, on account of their being Loyalists, but a tract of 2,500 acres of the lower end of the Manor of Sunbury, lying along Harvey's Creek, was restored to the family, who have continued to hold it down to this day.

An order accompanying the map is addressed by John Penn to John Lukens, surveyor general, and is dated 29th October, 1768, in the following words:

"By the Proprietaries.

"Pennsylvania ss.

"These are to authorize and require you to survey and lay out for our use in right and as part of our tenths the quantity of twenty thousand acres of land on North West Side of the River Susquehanna opposite to Wyoming, to include all the low lands, and make return thereof into our secretary's office, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant. Witness John Penn, Esq., Lieutenant Governor of the said Province, who by virtue of certain powers from the said Proprietaries hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the Land Office to be applied this 29th day of October, A. D. 1768."

Attached is a plot of the ground surveyed, with a certificate upon it signed by William Sculle that the same was surveyed on the 8th and 9th days of December, 1768. The endorsement upon the order to survey shows that it and the map were filed in the land office 7th February, 1769.

A SURVEYING PARTY OF 1816.

The following letter describing a surveying trip of 1816, is given as dealing with names more or less familiar. The journey of this Philadelphia land owner from Wilkes-Barre to Philadelphia occupied four days. The mode of living in the country of Buttermilk Falls was decidedly primitive. The letter is handed the Record by John W. Jordan of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The appended notes were furnished by Charles I. A. Chapman:

Thursday, June 11, 1816, left Wilkes-Barre on horseback 10 miles to Searle's Tavern (Note 1) at the mouth of the Lackawanna creek. Here we stopped to water. From thence we proceeded to Cane's Tavern, 12 miles from Searle's. Here we dined on such as the country afforded, and then proceeded to Ben-onie Stone's 8 (Note 2) from Cane's. Here we slept in a log cabin, there being but one room, the family consisting of Mr. Stone, his wife and two children, in one bed (there being two in the room, if they could be called beds) and myself in the other. Josiah Lewis, surveyor, (Note 3) William Drinker and William Henderson laid themselves down on the dirt floor with their feet towards the fire and in company with the geese and ducks. We slept pretty sound till daylight, at which time our feathered companions called all hands and would allow no more sleep.

June 22—After breakfast we pursued our journey towards Buttermilk Falls, passing P. Allen's, Westcoat Stone — Weatherby, Elder Miller, Jonathan Wall, William Wall (Note 4). Here we staid all night. Mrs. Wall prepared an excellent supper, but through fatigue and weariness I had lost my appetite and went soon to bed, and believe me, I never slept sounder in all my life.

June 13—Rose at daylight, being very much refreshed. Partook of a comfortable breakfast which Mrs. Wall had prepared for us and proceeded towards Buttermilk Falls, passing a burnt saw mill and at meridian arrived at the Buttermilk Falls and put up at the house of John Osterhout and staid all night.

14—Took an early breakfast and proceeded to survey two adjoining tracts of land (Note 6) patented in the name of Jeremiah Parker and Richard Parker laying in the Buttermilk Falls Valley. Returned in the evening and lodged at Osterhout's. (Note 5).

15—Continued the survey which we

finished before night.

16—Started from Mr. Osterhout's after breakfast and arrived at Wilkes-Barre in the evening, Sunday.

17—Paid Josiah Lewis his bill for surveying the 2 tracts, \$25.15, including chain bearers, a man, provisions and liquor.

18—Paid Welles and Mallory their fees for prosecuting Thomas Morgan for cutting and stealing the timber from off the above said land ten dollars (\$10), 117 rods from the most westerly corner of the above 2 tracts stands a white oak tree, initials D. M. cut with a hatchet.

June 20—Proceeded homewards and on the 24th arrived at Philadelphia.

Note 1—Searle's old tavern stand—site now occupied by Twin shaft and L. V. Junction, Pittston, with D. L. & W. R. R.

Note 2—Benoi Stones—Now "Elstons," foot of Narrows.

Note 3—Josiah Lewis, one of Wyoming's earliest surveyors, a compatriot (though older) of John Bennet, Elias Hoyt, George Haines and Isaac A. Chapman; a man of unvarying suavity, infinite humor and playful jest; brother of Sharp D. Lewis, first editor of the Wilkes-Barre "Advocate." Few of our city's remaining "oldest" but can yet tell of his wonderful stories and practical jokes.

Note 4—Wm. Wall's, opposite "Keelers," much celebrated in the early coaching days of Wyoming County.

Note 5—"John Osterhout's," the old tavern long known as the "Falls Tavern," "Sickler's," "McKune's," "Twins," &c., now Buttermilk Falls station, L. V. R. R.

Note 6—"Two adjoining tracts of land," probably the places now occupied by the Sicklers and Stephen Clark and the beautiful meadows just above.

FATHER OF SHARP D. LEWIS.

Editor Record: I notice in Note 3 in Record of July 2, following article on "Early Surveys" Josiah Lewis, Sr., is spoken of as the brother of Sharp D. Lewis, which is incorrect. He was the father of Shap D. and Josiah Lewis, Jr., and came from a distinguished family. William Lewis, his father, was admitted to practice in the Court of Common Pleas at Philadelphia in 1773, was elected a member of Pennsylvania legislature in 1787 and was appointed attorney for the United States by George Washington in 1789 and appointed judge of the District Court of the United States in 1781. He married Margaret Delaney, daughter of Sharp Delaney, also a distinguished family of Philadelphia for whom the late Sharp D. Lewis, his son, was named. Veritas.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON'S LIFE.

[Daily Record, March 12.]

In spite of the snow storm last night a good-sized audience attended the University Extension lecture in the high school building. Dr. Devine spoke of "Alexander Hamilton" and at the close threw on a screen stereopticon views associated with Hamilton and his brilliant career. Not an orator like Patrick Henry, not a politician like Jefferson, not a man of the varied ability or foreign acquaintance of Franklin, Hamilton was pictured as pre-eminently a creator, an originator, a statesman. Though not born in this country, he was the forerunner of that American spirit which has made naturalists of us all. Coming to America in boyhood from a British colony at a time when the Revolutionary War was about to commence, he at first hesitated as to whether his duty lay with the crown or with the colonies. His presence at Boston, however, in 1774 and his attendance at a public meeting in behalf of liberty left him no room for doubt, and though only 17 years old he got consent to speak and made a powerful appeal in aid of the struggle to throw off the yoke.

Early in the struggle he exerted powerful influence by reason of his essays, then a favorite method of appealing to the attention of the public. These essays written by a youth just coming of age were so profound that they were attributed to the leading statesmen of the day. As an essayist and pamphleteer he had no equal. At 20 he was made lieutenant colonel in the continental army and private secretary to Washington. Though charming in private life, he was proud, impatient, dignified, unyielding and at times chafed under the restraint of his secretaryship, and finally goaded by a perhaps deserved rebuke from his chief he resigned his place in Washington's service, though remaining in the army. He was a brave soldier and proved himself an adept in the art of war, earning the plaudits of Lafayette. His life has been divided into three periods, the first, his soldier life, ending at Yorktown. The second period was that in which the constitution was organized, and to Hamilton must be given the chief credit for bringing order out of the chaos and weakness which succeeded the war. The Continental Congress was unequal to the emergency. It was forever borrowing money which it never paid, forever making promises which it never fulfilled. It was practically powerless. There was a generally demoralized condition of the finances—the speaker graphically pictur-

ing the confusion growing out of the varying financial standards of the several States—manufactures were in a deplorable condition, the States were jealous of one another, society was demoralized, public and private debts were repudiated. The only man who did most of all to regenerate these discordant elements was Hamilton. It was the golden opportunity of his constructive genius.

Allusion was made to the hostility to the Loyalists after the revolution. They were hunted and hounded and in some instances killed like dogs. A hundred thousand of them were driven from the country, they taking refuge in the British colonies to the north of us. In the opinion of the speaker this persecution of the Loyalists is liable to make us trouble yet, as the hostility sometimes shown from Canada comes from the descendants of those Tories whom the victorious patriots banished from the new republic.

Professor Devine went into a consideration of the constitution period and the important part Hamilton played in it. James Madison was spoken of as the father of the constitution. A powerful agent was the series of anonymous essays which together form the *Federalist*. They were the work of Hamilton, Jay and Madison, the former writing by far the greater number. No student of American history should neglect to read the *Federalist*. It is the profoundest study of the constitution in literature.

The third period of Hamilton's life was that following the adoption of the constitution, during which he held the highly important position of secretary of the treasury in Washington's first cabinet. It was Hamilton's profound constructive genius which originated the national bank idea, the reformation of the currency, the protective tariff, the commercial treaty with England, the enforcement of national authority. His report on manufactures and on the public credit are corner stones of our government to-day. He was a believer in a strong central government—stronger even than that provided for by the constitution. It was pre-eminently he who thought out the details of the union. His was a lofty national ideal, with faith in a government when administered by the people.

The speaker had to pass hurriedly over the later events of Hamilton's life, his killing by Aaron Burr at the age of 45 being only casually referred to.

It is unfortunate that so much has to be crowded into a single hour. The life of Hamilton furnishes abundant material for several evenings rather than a single one.

JOHN NELSON.

Is there any reference in the local histories to one John Nelson? There is a tradition in his family that he and his family were at Wyoming and only escaped massacre by being warned by friendly Indians.

FIRST TWINS IN LUZERNE.

[Daily Record, June 10, 1896.]

The Record is informed that the first twins born in Luzerne County of which there is any knowledge were Henry and Harris Colt, sons of Arnold Colt, first sheriff of Luzerne County. They were born in what was known later as the Ingham residence, corner of River and Union streets. The house was built by Rev. Jacob Johnson prior to 1800. Henry Colt is still living, in Allentown.

Hunlock's Creek, June 15, 1895.—Editor Record: Seeing an article in your paper on the twins, first born in Luzerne County, I think that there were born in Exeter twins that were older than Harris and Henry Colt. They were daughters of Andrew Mantanye and were born previous to 1800, date I have not. Their names were Jenny and Nancy. Jenny married Mathew Dymon of Dymon Hollow, Exeter, and raised a large family in Northumberland Township, now Wyoming County. Their oldest son, Elihu, is nearly 80 years old and lives now near Falls, Wyoming County. Nancy married Alexander McMillan of Exeter and also raised a large family. Their oldest son, Andrew McMillan, lives in the State of New York, and their daughter, Lydia, married Roger Miller and lives on South Main street in Wilkes-Barre, near Le Grand's wagon factory. The dates of births and deaths I have not. The Dymon, Mantanye and McMillan families would make quite a history of Exeter, for they were among the early settlers of the township.

Relative.

IN WILKES-BARRE 92 YEARS AGO.

[From the Carbondale Herald.]

Saturday April 18, 1896, Alanson Yarrington died suddenly at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Adam Kagler. He had not enjoyed good health during the past year, but was able to be about. When he retired he appeared as well and cheerful as usual. At half past 1

o'clock a slight noise was heard in his room which awakened some of the family. When they reached his bedside, he was breathing his last. His death was due to old age.

The deceased was a brother of the late Dilton Yarrington. He was born in Wilkes-Barre ninety-two years ago, and moved to Dundaff when a young man. He resided there several years. He came here in 1860 and was engaged in the lumbering business for a number of years. During his many years' residence in this vicinity he won the respect and esteem of many acquaintances, and his death will be greatly regretted.

He is survived by a sister, Mrs. Benjamin Gearey of Dunmore, who is the last of the family. His surviving children—Mrs. Adam Kagler and Mrs. Christopher Schultz of this city, H. C. Yarrington of Forest City and Mrs. Ann Munson of Waterbury, Conn.

IN PURITAN TIMES.

Though Puritan children had but few recreations and amusements, they must have enjoyed a very cheerful, happy home life. Making sugar in its season was looked forward to with very agreeable anticipations by the farmers' sons and daughters. Toil in that was more than figuratively sweetened.

Thurlow Weed says: "When your troughs were dug out of basswood—for there were no buckets in those days—your trees tapped, your wood cut, and your fires fed, there was leisure either for reading or 'sparking.' Who will ever forget the transparent and delicious streaks of candy, cooled in snow, while 'sugaring off?' Many a farmer's son has found his best opportunity for mental improvement in his leisure moments while tending sap bush. At night you had only to feed the kettles and keep up your fires, the sap having been gathered and the wood cut before dark. I remember in this way to have read a history of the French revolution. I remember also how happy I was to borrow the book after a two mile tramp through the snow shoeless."

An old time New England expression, "getting the mitten," meaning getting your offer of marriage rejected by your "best girl," has an origin in the custom of the earlier days. One hundred years ago gloves were unknown in the country towns; mittens were knitted and worn in all families. If a young man going home from singing school with the

girl of his choice was holding her mittened hand, to keep it from getting cold, and took the opportunity to urge his suit, if the offer proved acceptable, the hand would remain; if otherwise, an effort to withdraw the hand would leave the mitten. So the suitor would get the mitten, but not the hand.

There were large families in those days. Sir William Phipps was one of twenty-six children. Benjamin Franklin was one of a family of seventeen. They rejoiced in some very singular names. These are the names of one family: Experience, Waitstill, Preserved, Hopeskill, Wait, Thanks, Unites, Desire and Supply.

It is interesting to note that the dinner hour was gradually moved from the forenoon until evening. The word dinner is believed to be a corruption of six hours, or 2 o'clock, the hour at which the Norman conquerors ate their principal meal. A young man from the Maine woods New York on a schooner and wrote home thus: "Hardly anybody here eats dinner at noon. Most of the folks eat theirs at 6 o'clock. The rich don't eat theirs until after 7 or half past, and the real upper crust don't dine until some time next day." He had evidently been brought up to think 12 o'clock the proper hour.

Saturday night was the beginning of the Sabbath. The quiet hush that pervaded the very atmosphere of the house suppressed the boisterous spirits of youth, and early planted a reverent love for the New England Sabbath. Everybody was expected to go to meeting and stay through both services. Some of the stanch men rode in the saddle, the good wife on a pillion, with the baby in her lap, and the next older child in front or behind. Every first Sabbath of the month the deacon could be seen cantering up the long road with the consecrated jug for the sacramental wine dangling from his saddle. It must have been a pleasant sight on Sunday morning to stand by the church and watch the worshippers as singly, two by two, or in families, they seemed to rise out of the hills, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south, for Sabbath morning all paths led to church, as all roads lead to Rome. In summer time the boys and girls carried their shoes and stockings in their hands, to save them from the wear and tear of the bushes and the long, sandy paths. Among the duties of the sexton was to turn the hourglass. The sermon

was expected to close with the last sands of the glass. How the children, and perhaps the grown people, watched the glass! But they were sometimes disappointed, for the old minister had great gifts of continuance. Their wigs were full of learning, and as freely as they had received freely they gave.

In 1635 each meeting house had the appendage of stocks and whipping post, and in some places they voted "That all persons who should stand out of the meeting house during the time of divine service should be set in the stocks."

It was also ordered that profane swearing should be punished by sitting in the stocks three times; telling lies, a fine of ten shillings or sitting in the stocks two times. In 1865 an unfortunate benedict was fined for keeping house alone. A man was fined for driving a yoke of oxen five miles on the Sabbath day.

As long ago as 1745 it is said there were bad boys, and tithing men were appointed to see that they did "not play in meeting," and to keep the dogs out of the meeting house.

Mrs. Stowe gives a picture of the old meeting house, which is the best I have found. "To my childish eyes our meeting house was fashioned on the model of Noah's arc and Solomon's temple. Its double rows of windows, of which I knew the number by heart; its doors, with great wooden quirks over them; its belfry, projecting out at the east end; its steeple and bell, all inspired as much sense of sublime as Strasburg cathedral itself. How magnificent to my eyes seemed the turniplike canopy that hung over the minister's head, hooked by a long iron rod to the wall above! How I wondered at the panels on either side of the pulpit, carved and painted as a smiling red tulip. The area of the house was divided into large, square pews, finished with a balustrade ten inches high. Through these loopholes the children could watch each other and report discoveries."

The meeting houses were not warmed, but the old and delicate carried foot stoves, and between the services they all repaired to a small building outside to eat their lunch and warm their nearly frozen limbs. The ministers were settled for life, and they were looked up to with great respect, and well they might be, for they were really the only educated people.

In the very early days neighbors usually paid friendly visits during the

winter season. In summer they were too busy. The men talked over their family affairs and the prices of what they had for sale. The wives and daughters chatted freely about their yards of homespun linen and linsey woolsey while they were busily knitting. It would have been regarded as quite disgraceful for any woman to sit idle. All were regaled with good doughnuts, cheese, fine cider or homemade beer.—*American Monthly Magazine.*

PIONEER SHIP BUILDER.

[From the San Francisco Examiner.]

Benjamin Franklin Williams, who died at his home in San Francisco in May, 1896, was the pioneer shipbuilder of the Pacific coast connected with the Central Pacific Co., and subsequently with the Southern Pacific Co. He built the steamer Washoe thirty-five years ago, and constructed the once noted bay and river steamers North Pacific, Capital, Pride of the River, Onward, Aurora and San Joaquin. In 1866 the Alameda ferry steamer was constructed under his direction—said to be the first of its kind on the coast. Subsequently he constructed the El Capitan, Oakland, Piedmont and other ferry boats.

Mr. Williams's forefathers fought in the war of the revolution. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in 1829, and came to this coast in the early days. A widow and one son, F. D. Williams, survive him. The decedent was a prominent member of the Order of Sons of Revolutionary Sires.

OLDEST FREE MASON DEAD.

Dr. Salmon, the oldest Free Mason in the world, died in London May 11, 1896, at the age of 106.

There appears to be no room for doubting the accuracy of the report of Dr. Salmon's age, for he had in his possession, in addition to other documentary evidence, the diary of his mother, in which his birth on March 4, 1790, is duly recorded. More than 100 years of his life was passed in Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, where he had a fine estate, which came to him by marriage.

He was educated as a physician, but never practiced spending much of his early life in foreign travel. He was on

the continent in the stirring days of Waterloo, and possessed a great fund of interesting historical anecdotes.

He was one of the best known men in South Wales, and is known to hundreds of the residents of Wyoming Valley as one of the oldest county magistrates in Glamorganshire.

BORN HERE MANY YEARS AGO.

The Free Press, published at Montour Falls, Schuyler County, New York, says: "Died, in this village, May 10, 1896, of general debility, Andress Ayers, aged 78 years, 3 months and 25 days.

Mr. Ayers was born in what is now Exeter Township, Luzerne County, Pa., June 15, 1818, and came to Montour Falls in 1842. He was married to Susan Clauhart in 1845, and has since resided here.

"In addition to his sister, Mrs. Timothy Goble, of Earlville, Ill., he is survived by his wife and the following children: William E. of this village, Samuel E., chief mailing clerk of the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., postoffice; Mrs. James Dun, of Elmira, N. Y.; Frank, superintendent of Government Hospital Farm, Washington, D. C.; Arthur, of Pen Yan, N. Y.; Henry, employed on the Democrat and Chronicle, Rochester, N. Y., and Mrs. Arthur Almy, of Pen Yan, N. Y.

"Funeral services were held at the Baptist Church on Wednesday, May 13, Rev. Mr. Slocum officiating; burial in Montour Cemetery."

LADIES AT WYOMING MONUMENT.

The old original Wyoming Monument Association, established in 1860, held a meeting on Saturday, May 9, 1896, at the home of the president, Mrs. Catherine Jenkins on Wyoming avenue, says the Wyoming Monitor. The association holds the deeds for the monument grounds at Wyoming and is making arrangements to take part in the annual 3d of July exercises. The original members, and those who represent original members, present were: Mrs. Catherine Jenkins, Mrs. Sharps Carpenter, Mrs. C. I. A. Chapman, Mrs. John Sharps, Mrs. Annette Gorman, Mrs. Benjamin Dorrance, Miss Annie Dorrance, Mrs. Henry Coward, Mrs. Samuel Urquhart, Mrs. Samuel Fear, Mrs. W. A. Wilcox, Mrs. J. D. Green, Miss Ruth Polen, Mrs. William Jacobs and Miss Emily Jenkins.

ANOTHER OLD STAGE DRIVER GONE.

[The Danville Intelligencer.]

John W. Sheriff, one of our old and most highly respected citizens, departed this life on Thursday morning, Mr. this life Thursday, March 26, 1896. Mr. Sheriff some two years ago sustained a stroke of paralysis. Since that time he has been confined to his residence in a nearly helpless condition.

The deceased was born in Erie County, this State, in 1822. He came to Danville in 1842. He clerked in a general store for fourteen years and later ran a stage line from Danville to Pottsville, Northumberland to Wilkes-Barre, and Danville to Williamsport and Blossburg, taking in all the villages on the route, carrying passengers and the United States mail. For several years with a partner he ran a packet boat on the canal, abandoning the mercantile business, after which, until the time of his illness, he was employed as bookkeeper in the coal office of R. H. Woolley.

AN OLD WILKES-BARRE THEAT- RICAL COMPANY.

Remembrances of the boys of the sixties in Wilkes-Barre were conjured up yesterday in the Roth building at the corner of North Main and Union streets, which is now being remodelled. Mr. Roth, in speaking of the past, stated that the following young men formed themselves into an amateur theatrical company: Al Montayne, S. L. Barnes, Ernest Roth, Isaac E. Long, and the following, who have passed into the great beyond: Ed. Smith, A. Clapsaddle, Charles Robertson, Andrew Lewis and others. They prepared several selections and gave the farce "Box and Cox" in Chaboon Hall on West Market street, July 3, 1863. They had a fair audience and the receipts were given to the Ross Street M. E. Church Sunday School to form a nucleus for its library fund. The day after the performance Governor Curtin issued a call for men, and most of the amateur actors responded and went to the front, which broke up the company. Mr. Roth, Sr., gave the boys the use of his hall on the third story of his building free for them to carry on their schemes. It was in this hall that they painted their scenery, among other pieces being a kitchen scene and a rural scene. They were painted on muslin hung on the white twall. The paint saturated through and left a perfect im-

print after the canvass was removed. This latter was covered up with paper after the hall was partitioned off for a flat. Yesterday as the workmen were tearing down the paper the scenery of thirty-two years ago was brought to sight as clearly as it appeared when put there.

DEATH OF REV. CHARLES CORSS.

[Daily Record, May 21, 1896.]

Rev. Charles Corss, father of Dr. Frederick Corss of Kingston, died suddenly yesterday afternoon at 1:30 at his home in East Smithfield, Bradford County. The deceased was well known to the older residents of the valley. Sixty years ago he was pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Kingston. The church was then in its infancy and the congregation small and scattered. The older residents of Kingston still living have many pleasant recollections of Rev. Mr. Corss. He was noted for his piety and zealous labor in the cause of religion and helped to lay the foundation at Kingston of what is now one of the most flourishing Presbyterian churches in the county. Had he lived until next Saturday he would have been 93 years old. During his long and useful career he was always blessed with good health. He possessed to a remarkable degree during the closing years of his life all the intellectual power which he possessed in his earlier days. The deceased came from old Revolutionary stock. He was born at Greenfield, Mass., in 1803, and was a descendant of James, who fought in the historic battle of Bunker Hill. Besides Dr. Corss he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. William F. Church of Kingston, and another son, Charles Corss of Lock Haven.

OLD PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER.

Rev. Charles Corss was said to be the oldest member of the Lackawanna Presbytery, his age being 93. Since his death it is probable that Rev. Thomas Thomas, now of Wyalusing, is the oldest member of this Presbytery, his age being 84. Rev. Mr. Thomas is the only living member of class '43 of Lafayette. In his college days the journey from his home in Neath, Bradford County, to Easton and return was always made on foot, his walk in making these trips averaging forty miles a day. He is now in full possession of his faculties, barring a slight deafness, and in the en-

ship, Montgomery County, and Tacy joyment of a green old age, having as he does a comfortable home with modern accessories, the household duties being wisely managed by an affectionate daughter, a lady of culture and an extensive traveler, having twice visited Europe.

REV. W. J. KEATLEY DEAD.

[Daily Record, June 8, 1896.]

Rev. William J. Keatley dropped dead at his home on Maple street, Kingston, last evening at 7 o'clock, while preparing to go to church. He had been apparently in good health and had made no complaint of not feeling well.

Deceased was a superannuated minister of the Wyoming Conference of the Methodist Church and was stationed in the Wyoming district.

The deceased was born in Ireland sixty-five years ago. He came to America in early manhood and was educated and prepared for the ministry at Wyoming Seminary, which he left in 1859. His first charge was at Newport, where he was stationed in 1859 and 1860. The other charges he filled were as follows: Plansville, '61-'62; Shepherd's Creek, '63-'64; North Danby, '65-'66; Barton, '67-'68; Slaterville, '69-'70; Van Ettenville, '71; Little Meadows, '72-'74; Rome, '75-'76; Herrick, '77-'79; Northmoreland, '80-'81; Yatesville, '82-'83; Larksville, '84-'86; West Nanticoke, '87-'89; Wauamie, '90-'92; Pringleville, '93. In 1894 he was made a superannuated minister, owing to his advanced age.

He is survived by a wife, who before her marriage was Elizabeth Swallow, sister of Rev. Miner Swallow of Kingston, and two sons, Edward C., a civil engineer in Virginia, and Rev. William J., Jr., a member of the Newark Conference.

Rev. Mr. Keatley was an earnest man of God and worked enthusiastically in the Master's vineyard. He was highly esteemed and greatly beloved wherever he lived.

FAMOUS CLASS OF '71.

[Daily Record, June 15, 1896.]

Dr. Olin F. Harvey has gone to Easton to attend the commencement exercises of Lafayette College, but more especially to take part in the quarter-century reunion of the class of 1871, of which he was a member.

For the reason that this was the first

large class to enter and be graduated from the college—thus, in one respect, marking the beginning of the institution's period of prosperity which has continued to the present time; because of the high grade of scholarship maintained by the members of the class during their college course; and because, since graduation, so many of those members have occupied prominent and important stations in life, and have been successful men of affairs, the class has been known in the annals of Lafayette as "the famous class of '71."

Three graduates of the class were from Wilkes-Barre—Dr. Olin F. Harvey, Oscar J. Harvey and John Scollay (who for a dozen years prior to his death in 1889 was a prominent lawyer in Philadelphia.)

Alexander Bryden of Pittston, the well known mining engineer, and James P. Dickson of Scranton, lately president of the Dickson Manufacturing Co., were also members of the class. Three of the class have been professors in the college, one a tutor, and one a member of the board of trustees for twelve years.

Two others were elected to tutorship, but did not accept.

W. B. Owen, professor in Latin in Lafayette; John Meigs, principal of the "Hill School," Pottstown, Pa.; Hon. A. S. Swartz, president judge of the courts of Montgomery County, Pa.; Dr. J. M. Crawford, United States consul general to St. Petersburg, 1889-'93; William McMurtrie, the well known chemical expert, New York; J. E. Watkins of the Smithsonian Institution, were members of the class.

Oscar J. Harvey, who is the class historian, was recording secretary of the college alumni association for eight years, and for ten years maintained "the Harvey prize"—an annual prize of \$20, given for excellence in English studies during the junior year.

THE LATE BENJAMIN MORGAN.

Benjamin Morgan, the last remaining brother of Charles Morgan of this city, who died at his home at Willow Grove, Montgomery County, this State, on Tuesday, June 9, 1896, arrived at the advanced age of 34½ years. He lived in that county during his entire lifetime, while for more than 200 years his family have been residents of the same county and identified with its history and progress.

Benjamin Morgan was the son of Benjamin Morgan of Whitpain Town-

Stroud, previously of Motherkill, Delaware. They were married in the year 1800, having complied with the requirements of the Gwynedd Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, of which they were both members. As the quaint marriage certificate says, "according to the good order existing among them."

The senior Benjamin Morgan was the son of Morgan Morgan, who was the son of Edward Morgan and Margaret Rittenhouse, all of the county of Montgomery. Margaret Rittenhouse was the sister of David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, who was the first director of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Throughout its entire history in this country, and for some time prior to its emigration to America, this family have been members of the Society of Friends, Charles Morgan of this city still retaining his membership.

The funeral of Benjamin Morgan was held at the Horsam Friends Meeting House on Sunday, June 14, at 1 o'clock p. m., and was attended by a very large gathering of relatives and friends. The interment was made in the burying ground adjoining the meeting house.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION.

[Daily Record, June 22, 1896.]

After a long interval the Wyoming Historical Society has issued another pamphlet proceedings. It comprises forty-eight pages and is a reprint of that portion of the recent State publication devoted to the Frontier Forts of Pennsylvania, written by the late Sheldon Reynolds, descriptive of the forts in Wyoming Valley. The printed sheets were furnished by courtesy of State librarian Egle and the same is enriched with certain illustrations from the *Annals of Luzerne*, all the extracts of which have lately come into possession of the society. There is also a reduction of Stewart Pearce's map of the valley, showing the forts, villages, etc., during the Revolutionary period.

In his study of the forts of Wyoming Valley Mr. Reynolds took occasion to review, briefly, the entire history of the Revolutionary period and the same gives the reader a comprehensive glance of those most thrilling times.

Included in the pamphlet is a memorial sketch of the deceased author, by Andrew H. McClintock, as also a four page appendix giving the bibliography of the historical society.

THE BLUE MOUNTAIN FORTS.

Reference has already been made to the State publication devoted to the Revolutionary forts, and to the sections pertaining to this region. A third section, more or less connected with Wyoming Valley, deals with the portion of country between the Susquehanna and Delaware rivers, and was performed by H. M. Richards of Reading, secretary of the Pennsylvania German Society. Among other things he says:

"Upon the occurrence of the first murders, block houses were erected by the settlers themselves, or farm houses used as such, which were located where the danger seemed most imminent and without respect to any general plan. In 1756, however, the provincial government took the defense of the people into its own hands. A chain of forts was established along the Blue Mountains, reaching from the Susquehanna to the Delaware, at distances of from ten to fifteen miles apart, depending upon the comparative situation of the prominent gaps, which gateways were invariably occupied.

"Almost without exception they were composed of a stockade of heavy planks, inclosing a space of ground more or less extensive, on which were built from one to four block houses, pierced with loopholes for musketry, and occupied as quarters by the soldiers and refugee settlers.

"In addition to these regular forts it became necessary at various points, where depredations were most frequent, to have subsidiary places of defense and refuge, which were also garrisoned by soldiers and which generally comprised farm houses, selected because of their superior strength and convenient location, around which the usual stockade was thrown, or occasionally block houses erected for the purpose. The soldiers who garrisoned these forts were provincial troops, which almost without exception were details from the 1st Battalion of the Pennsylvania Regiment, under command of that brave and energetic officer, Lieut. Col. Conrad Weiser.

"When, by 1758, the fury of the first Indian outbreak had somewhat spent its force and the terrors of Pontiac's war, which broke out in 1763, belonged as yet to the unseen future, the government deemed it wise to abandon all but the larger and most important of the stations in the chain of defense, there-

by materially reducing their number.

"It is with these Indian forts of the Blue Mountains I have to do, of which in this year of our Lord, in 1894, but the slightest traces remain of a couple only, and of which the true location of many others had become a matter of mere conjecture, and, in the briefest time, would have been entirely lost to history, by so slender a thread did an authentic knowledge of their situation hang, had it not been for the wise appointment of the commission whose labors have just been completed."

The forts described by Mr. Richards are as follows: Fort Harris on the Susquehanna, Harrisburg; Fort Hunter, six miles north of Fort Harris, Manada Fort, at Manada Gap, in the Blue mountains, twelve miles from Fort Hunter; Brown's Fort, at Hanover, Lebanon County; Fort Swatara, in the vicinity of Swatara Gap, in the Blue Mountains; Fort Henry, twelve miles east of Fort Swatara, the most important fort between the Lehigh and the Susquehanna rivers, owing to the fact that it was about equally distant from each, and also because it was on the main road to Shamokin and protected the most populous portion of the entire region; Fort Northkill, at the base of the Blue Mountains; Fort Deitrich Snyder, on top of the Blue Mountains, on the road leading to Pottsville; Fort Franklin, about nineteen miles from Fort Lebanon; Fort Everett, near Lynnport, in Lehigh County; fort at Lehigh Gap; fort three miles South of the gap; Deshler's fort on the north bank of the Coplay Creek; Raiston Fort, about two miles southwest of the present town of Bath, and five miles west and north of Bethlehem; Fort Allen, where the town of Weissport now stands; Fort Norris, fifteen miles east of Fort Allen, between that and Fort Hamilton at Stroudsburg; fort near Wind Gap; Peter Doll's block house, close to the southern base of the Blue range, between Little Gap and Smith's Gap; Nazareth stockade at Nazareth; the stockaded mill at Friedensthal, on the Bushkill farm; Christian's Spring, a house of refuge; "The Rose Inn," about one and one-quarter miles north by east from old Nazareth; Fort Hamilton, in the Western section of the present town of Stroudsburg, not then, however, in existence; Fort Hyndshaw, ten miles above Depue's; Depue's fort on the Delaware, and Shawnee, in Monroe County, near Stroudsburg; Fort Penn, located in the eastern section of Stroudsburg.

This completes the list of the Indian forts and houses of refuge along the Blue range, whose record, as Mr. Richards says, "leaves behind it a trail of blood such as, we trust, the fair fields of our beloved State may never again be called upon to witness. The old forts have crumbled away, never more to be re-built, and the peaceful plow has long since leveled to the ground the little mounds which marked the line of their stockades."

DEATH OF JOHN D. HOYT.

John D. Hoyt, a life long merchant of Kingston and one of Wyoming Valley's most prominent citizens, died June 16, 1896, at 3:30 p. m. at his home in Kingston. Mr. Hoyt's illness dates back to two years ago, but it did not take on a serious aspect until one year ago, since when, although able to be about the street and circulate occasionally among his close friends at times, he had been under the constant care of a trained nurse. His affection was a disease of the heart, angina pectoris, being the immediate cause of death. Although his family had been in fear of death its coming is a great shock. He died happy and was surrounded by his family. It was a fitting close to a well spent life. No one could pay a higher or more deserved compliment to a man than Rev. Ferdinand Von Frug pays to the deceased. He says: "He was a man of remarkable soundness and perfection of character. He was modest and retiring in his disposition—not in any sense ostentatious or self asserting, and yet no man in the entire community exerted an influence more deciding or more healthful. It was simply the result of his great and good character, which everybody knew to be genuine and true, and which was felt in every circle in which he moved. Coupled with this was a clear mind, a sound judgment and an honest purpose to do right. He was with all and above all a Christian, a firm believer in God and His word. No man was freer from human frailties than John D. Hoyt—no one in whose everyday life there was exhibited more of the nobleness of genuine manhood—plain, straightforward, honest and true. He was a model man and his life a benediction to those who knew him best."

With the exception of Mrs. Abram H. Reynolds deceased was the last survivor of the family of which ex-Governor H. M. Hoyt was a member. Although Mr. Hoyt took a keen interest in

public questions he never sought political honors. He was as content with exercising his might as a citizen, in sympathizing with the suffering and helping the needy. In the church he was especially prominent and most of his life has been an active worker in the Kingston Presbyterian Church, of which he was one of the promoters. Mr. Hoyt was born in Kingston Aug. 13, 1819, and was a son of Ziba and Nancy (Herbert) Hoyt, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Luzerne County, both being of New England origin. He was educated in the common schools and at Lafayette College. He was twice married. His first wife was Martha A., daughter of Abraham L. and Sarah (Myers) Goodwin. For his second wife he married Elizabeth Goodwin. Each of these unions was blessed with three children, all of whom are living. They are: Ann Elizabeth, wife of George Shoemaker of Forty Fort; Abram G., Kingston; Martha, wife of Dr. Frederick Corss; Augusta, who lives at home; Edward E., also at home, and Henry M., a lawyer at Spokane, Washington. The deceased followed farming most of his life.

DEATH OF MRS. TUBBS.

[Daily Record, June 12, 1896.]

Mrs. Emily R. Tubbs, widow of the late Dr. Tubbs, died at her home in Kingston Thursday at 5 o'clock. The deceased had been in feeble health for some time, but acute pneumonia was the immediate cause of death. Mrs. Tubbs was a member of one of the oldest families of the valley. She was the daughter of Benjamin and Lydia Reynolds and was born in Plymouth in April, 1822. She had six brothers and two sisters. They were: William C., Elizabeth W., Chauncey A., J. Fuller George, Abram H., Miss Clara and Hannah, wife of the late Dr. Bedford. The brothers are all deceased. Mrs. Tubbs resided at Plymouth until her marriage, when she removed to Kingston with her husband, residing there since. She was a kind mother and a devoted Christian. All her life she had been a member of the Presbyterian Church and in her younger days took an active part in church work.

She is survived by one daughter, Mary Covell Tubbs, and one son, Benjamin R. Tubbs.

QUEEN ESTHER'S ROCK.

[Pittston Item, June 13, 1896.]

Some time ago negotiations were completed for the purchase by the Daughters of the American Revolution of the plot of land at Wyoming on which Queen Esther's Rock is situated. The object was to protect the rock from relic hunters, whose delight it was to chip off a piece of the stone and carry it away.

A sort of iron cage has been constructed which protects the rock from injury, but permits a view of it. Upon this cage will be placed a tablet bearing the following inscription:

UPON THIS ROCK
The Indian Queen, Esther, Slaughtered
the Brave Patriots Taken in the
Battle of July 3, 1778.

Presented by the
WYOMING VALLEY CHAPTER
of the
Daughters of the
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
1895.

The tablet is 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ x18 inches, and is of a non-corroding metal.

The plot of land purchased has a frontage of fifteen feet on Susquehanna avenue. It is fifteen feet in depth and ten feet wide at the rear. This will be enclosed by a strong and handsome iron fence, which it is expected will be completed by July 3, the date on which the commemorative exercises will be held at the monument.

DECORATE ON FLAG DAY.

[Daily Record, May 18, 1896.]

American Flag Day, commemorating the adoption by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777, of the memorable resolution "that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation,"—will be observed this year on Monday, June 15, (the 14th falling on Sunday) by decorating of public buildings and private dwellings, and many others, with the stars and stripes, and in many of the public schools of the United States with patriotic exercises. Some schools will combine a suitable program with their closing exercises on June 12. "The American Flag, its origin and symbolism" (Whitmash) and "A National Patriotic Exercise" (Lundy) are good books to be found in the Osterhout Library.

IN HER EIGHTIETH YEAR.

[Daily Record, July 1, 1896.]

At the Old Ladies' Home yesterday noon there died Mrs. Rosina D. Rogers. Her birth place was in Wayne County, May 17, 1817. She entered the Home in December, 1894. She was well and strong until attacked by pneumonia four or five days before her death. The old lady is well remembered by hundreds as the widow of Thomas M. Rogers, for many years superintendent of Hollenback Cemetery, and who died in October,

AN OLD RECORD SUBSCRIBER.

One of the oldest readers of the Record is J. Taylor Bennett, who resides at Egan, Moody Co., South Dakota. Mr. Bennett is a native of Luzerne county, and though absent for many years he has never lost his love for the old home. Here is his picture, which the Record has had made to show his old Pennsylvania friends how he looks after a lapse of many years.

J. Taylor Bennett was born July 24, 1811, in Hanover township, Luzerne



county. His father, Josiah Bennett, was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1786, and died in 1857, and his mother, Sarah Taylor, was a native of Danbury, Conn. He is a brother of Silas W. Bennett, of Wilkes-Barre, and was twice married, first to Hannah Miller in Wilkes-Barre in 1832, they having seven children. Four of them are buried in Wyoming Valley.

Hannah Miller was granddaughter of John and Rachael Crosley, natives of England, who were in this country during the Revolutionary war. His second wife, Henrietta Shiner, is now enjoying good health at the good old age of 83 years. Five children were born to them and they have numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren. Both these marriages were in Wilkes-Barre, his second wife being a native of Sugar Loaf Valley.

Mr. Bennett's grandfather, Ishmael Bennett, was a native of Rhode Island, but moved to Connecticut and emigrated to Wyoming about 1770. He married for his second wife the widow of Philip Weeks, who was killed in the massacre of July 3, 1778. Ishmael attained the remarkable age of 104 years, his death occurring in Ohio. Ishmael had a son, Ishmael, who became almost as old as his father, his death occurring in Pittston in 1859 at the age of 98.

J. Taylor Bennett was a carpenter by trade and sixty or seventy years ago he knew every man in Wilkes-Barre. He helped his uncle, Henry Blackman, build the First Presbyterian church, now the Osterhout Library, in 1832. He built Sylvester Dana's academy in 1839. In 1831 he was converted and joined the M. E. church, which was then worshipping in the Court House, but afterwards bought the Presbyterian interest in Old Ship Zion for \$1,000. Twenty years later the Methodists sold back to the Presbyterians for \$400 and built a brick church on Franklin street. The brick work was done by Thomas H. Parker, and the carpenter work by Ashbel Bennett, Earl Barnes and Daniel A. Fell.

J. Bennett Smith's mother is a sister of Mr. Bennett and the late Mrs. H. B. Plumb was his niece. Mr. Bennett and his good wife, although advanced in years, are able to do their own work and it would not be surprising if they would yet make a visit to Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Bennett has taken the Record many years and thus has kept in touch with his native valley.

WAS A PIONEER RESIDENT.

[Daily Record, July 7, 1896.]

Mathias Gangwere, one of the oldest settlers in Weatherly, died on Friday night. He was born 75 years ago in Lizard Creek Valley, and was among the first settlers to hew the forest which now comprises Laurytown Valley. Mr. Gangwere and his wife conducted the

boarding house for the lumber camp, procuring their provisions with great difficulty from many miles distance. Later on they lived in Penn Haven, where he was employed as a carpenter in the boat yards. From here he moved to Weatherly in the early 60's, where he resided continuously up to his death. His wife died about a year ago. He is survived by the following children: William, a well known Lehigh Valley engineer, Thomas F. of Wilkes-Barre, Mrs. Lewis Lambert of Catasauqua, Mrs. Ephraim Miller, Mrs. John Nuss, Jr., and Mrs. Washington Young of Weatherly.

DEATH OF MR. HUGUS.

[Daily Record, July 8, 1896.]

The summer residents at Glen Summit were shocked Tuesday afternoon to hear that N. P. H. Hugus of South Franklin street was alarmingly ill, and before the shades of night had come he had passed away from earth. His illness dates back only a few days, and was attributed to indigestion, but judging from later conditions it is probable death was due to some heart trouble. On Friday evening he had gone for a horse-back ride with Edwin H. Jones and becoming heated from the riding he experienced a chill. But his illness did not assume an alarming form at once, in fact the day before his death he went down to Wilkes-Barre to look after his business. During the early hours of Tuesday morning Dr. Frank Woodbury was sent for and he found Mr. Hugus in another chill, and with some heart disturbance, though the symptoms were not alarming. However a change set in suddenly and in a few moments he had breathed his last.

Nicholas Philip Hacke Hugus would have been 50 years old next September. He was the picture of health, never having been sick, and only a few weeks ago was accepted as a desirable risk by an insurance company. He was a practical believer in insurance and his friends say he was carrying thirty thousand dollars.

He was born in Allegheny City and was the son of William Hugus, whose business at the corner of Fifth avenue and Wood street was long a commanding one in Pittsburg. Deceased lost his father when only 9 years old. When the war was in progress he was a student at Oberlin College in Ohio, and at the age of 17 he enlisted in the army,

though his life as a soldier was brief, Lee's surrender coming three months later.

He began the axle business with the Liggett spring and axle works in Pittsburg, and just twenty years ago he married a daughter of Mr. Liggett, who survives him, as do their three children—William Orth Hugus, Frank Liggett Hugus and Paul Guthrie Hugus.

His mother is living at Springfield, Ohio.

Nine years ago Mr. Hugus came to Wilkes-Barre as general manager for the Sheldon Axle Co., his experience at Pittsburg having brought him to the favorable notice of Mr. Sheldon, who made no mistake in considering him a valuable factor in the axle business. Mr. Hugus proved so thoroughly capable that in addition to his being general manager he was afterwards honored with the post of vice president, he holding both positions at the time of his sudden demise.

He was one of the most genial and companionable of men, carrying sunshine everywhere, and being an extensive reader he was possessed of a fund of information on many subjects. He had a smile and a kind word for everybody. He was a devoted husband and an affectionate parent, and in his unexpected death our city sustains a severe loss. As a manager he was a model of fairness and was a general favorite with his employees. At Glen Summit, where he and his family have spent their summers for half a dozen seasons, he was a universal favorite and there is deep mourning at his untimely taking off.

LECTURE ON VENEZUELA.

[Daily Record, June 17, 1896.]

The meeting of the Luzerne County Historical and Geological Society Tuesday was one of exceptional interest. It was held in the parish building of St. Stephen's Church, owing to the large attendance, and there was not only a large number of the active members present, but a good sprinkling of outsiders as well. The president, Hon. Stanley Woodward, occupied the chair. After the regular business had been transacted, Rev. Horace E. Hayden announced that he was ready to award the two prizes offered some time ago by the Sons of the Revolution for the best essays on the subject "Pennsylvania in the American Revolution." These prizes were offered for competi-

tion among the pupils of the public schools. The judges of the contest were John W. Jordan of the State Historical Association, Dr. Egle, the State librarian, and F. C. Johnson of the Record. These gentlemen, after a careful consideration of the essays submitted, were unanimous in awarding the first prize, \$10 in gold, to Earl O. Chamberlain, a pupil of the Kingston high school, and the second prize, a handsome medal, to Claude Raife of the Wilkes-Barre high school. Rev. Mr. Hayden voiced a deserved compliment to these young men for the excellent manner in which they treated the subject, and when they came forward to receive the prizes they received also a hearty round of applause.

J. B. Austin, late of Venezuela, was then introduced and he delivered a thoughtful and interesting lecture upon "Venezuela," in which country he has spent some time. It was illustrated with maps and stereopticon views which made it take an additional interest. The speaker's language was choice and elegant, his powers of observation manifestly great, for the descriptive passages were of unusual interest and held the closest attention of the audience. He gave a minute description of English, Dutch and French Guiana, the various watersheds in that part of the South American continent, the general topography of the country from the mouth of the Orinoco to the interior; the trackless, impenetrable jungle that stretches away into unknown regions for thousands of miles; the rank luxuriance of the foliage; the thousands of strange birds with dazzling plumage that flit about in the virgin forests, as well as the thousands of wild animals and dangerous reptiles that flourish there, were all described in the simple, but graphic, manner of a traveler who has used his eyes to good advantage and knows how to tell of the things he has seen in an interesting and instructive way. The manners and customs of the people were also touched upon, as well as the boundary question which has aroused so much interest in this country and Great Britain, and both were treated in admirably lucid and concise manner.

At the conclusion of the address the speaker was given a vote of thanks by the society.

EARLY MINE EXPLOSION.

[Daily Record, July 14, 1896.]

The death of Nicholas Lamb at Miner's Mills on Wednesday morning removes from earth the last victim of the earliest mine disaster in the Wyoming Valley, that of the then Thompson shaft, but better known to-day as the Pine Ridge colliery of the Algonquin Coal Co., says a writer in the Sunday Leader. The explosion occurred in November, 1867, and was the most terrific and at the same time most disastrous known in the coal regions up to that date, and mine experts from all over the anthracite region hurried to the scene to study the situation and offer their services.

The old Thompson shaft is located in Miner's Mills. Its early name was given to it in honor of the contractor, a man by the name of Thompson, but the mine itself was owned by Charles Parrish of this city, then a vigorous young man in the commencement of his career as a coal operator. The shaft had been sunk to the lower vein—the desired point—and a tunnel had been started from that vein to the one above, a distance of possibly two hundred feet. Gas was so prevalent in every part of the mine that the men were compelled to work by the dim light of safety lamps and strict orders had been issued to fire no shots, but prosecute the work with pick only. As in hundreds of instances since, the men, understanding the danger and discouraged at the slow progress made with the pick, determined to chance a blast. Fatal decision! The firing of the blast ignited the feeders and these in turn set fire to the coal, and despite the united efforts of the workmen, the fire gained so rapidly that it was deemed necessary to resort to other means to conquer the flames. A consultation of the officials was held and they unanimously concluded that there were only two methods left by which to fight the fire, namely, either to smother it or flood the shaft. The first was considered the cheaper and was adopted. The fires were drawn from beneath the boilers, stoves were taken out of the engine house and every vestige of fire was removed from around the mouth of the shaft. Then the opening of the mine was firmly planked, every crevice calked, and when it was thus hermetically sealed the shaft was abandoned for nine days, expecting that at the expiration of that time the fire in the mine would be extinguished.

On the tenth day Nicholas Lamb, Ned McCabe, Patrick Walsh and a man named Bertley were ordered to remove the cover-

ing from the shaft, and amid much trepidation on the part of the officials and miners they commenced their work. It was a dark, dismal day in November, 1867, and the four men began their work, watched from a safe distance by a crowd of their comrades. Suddenly there was a low, rumbling noise as if distant thunder, followed almost instantly by a fearful explosion that shook the earth for miles around. The air was filled with dust, dirt and flying timbers, and those who had gathered near the mine ran for their lives to the nearest point of safety.

After a few minutes the braver among the miners, led by old Jimmy Lafferty, now deceased, hurried back to the shaft and commenced their search for Lamb and his companions. Before they were rewarded with any success the gas had again gathered in the shaft and a second explosion occurred, but fortunately none of the brave rescuers were hurt. They resumed their search, and at last came upon Lamb and McCabe lying beneath the big spool drum of the hoisting engines, where they had been thrown by the force of the concussion, fortunately both were living. McCabe was not hurt much, but Lamb was badly broken up. One arm was broken, one thigh was badly splintered, and his throat was cut from ear to ear, narrowly escaping the jugular. Both were carried to their homes, and while on the way two more explosions occurred. The last was fatal to one of the sight-seers, a man named McDonald, whose skull was crushed by a flying timber.

After waiting long enough to assure themselves that the gas extinguished itself, the rescuers went back and resumed their search for Bertley and Walsh, the two men who had been at work with Lamb and McCabe when the first explosion occurred. The searchers looked in every conceivable place and at last were rewarded with finding a shoe with a foot in it hundreds of yards away from the shaft. The mine was flooded and months after the bones of the two men were found stripped of flesh in the bottom of the shaft. They were gathered together and interred in the City Cemetery.

After lying long months in his bed Nicholas Lamb recovered and was given the position as night fire boss in the same mine. This he continued to fill until five years ago, when a change was made, and poor Nicholas was discharged to make way for a favorite of the new superintendent. He had grown old in the service of the company, had worked industriously, lived economically, but a series of deaths in his family, together with hard times,

prevented him from saving a competency, and with the silver of time on his locks, the infirmities of age and early injuries preying upon his frame, he was compelled to return to the breaker, where he ended his days as a slate picker. Thus is seen another instance of the heartlessness of corporations.

But Nicholas Lamb lived a life that was an open book. His neighbors esteemed and loved him, and he died tenderly watched over by his faithful wife, loving children and sorrowing neighbors.

OLDEST NATIVE OF WILKES-BARRE.

James D. Laird, who so far as he knows is the oldest native of the city of Wilkes-Barre, was 79 years old on July 13, 1896. There are older men, but they were not born here, although Calvin Parsons was born in the township, now the borough of Parsons.

Mr. Laird has always lived here except during two years when he went to Newark, N. J., to learn the saddlery trade, which he has followed ever since. He has always been an ardent Republican and in former days he used to make campaign speeches. Mr. Laird has known what it was to suffer bereavement, he having buried his wife, six sons and three daughters. He has three daughters yet, Mrs. James Hughes of this city, with whom he lives; Mrs. Daniel F. Loderick of Plymouth and Mrs. Lee Stanton of Pittston. His wife was Patience Jackson, whose sister is Mrs. W. S. Wells. Mr. Laird's parents were Gilbert Laird and Charlotte (Watley) Laird.

Mr. Laird was born in a house standing on Franklin above Market street, got his schooling there in after years and still later, on getting married kept house twelve years in the same building. His teacher was Miss Trott, mother of the late Chief Justice George W. Woodward.

BRAVE UNTO DEATH.

Editor Record: In wandering over the country gathering up the fragments of personal heroism that are fast going down in the soldier's grave, we run across emanations of the human mind that appear divinely inspired and are truly sublime and should not perish.

The letters of wounded soldiers and officers from the battlefields of the South are among the most touching mementoes of the late war.

One of the most affecting of all the letters was that written by Col. Thornton Brodhead, commanding the First Michigan Cavalry, to his wife from the fatal battlefield before Washington, when Gen. Pope was defeated through the treachery of Fitz John Porter:

"My Dearest Wife: I write to you, mortally wounded, from the battlefield. We are again defeated, and ere this reaches you your children will be fatherless. Before I die let me implore that in some way it may be stated that Gen. Pope has been outwitted and that Fitz John Porter is a traitor.

"Had they done their duty as I did mine and had led as I led, the dear old flag would have waved in triumph. I wrote to you yesterday morning.

"To-day is Sunday and to-day I sink to the green couch of our final rest. I have fought well, my darling, and was shot in the endeavor to rally our broken battalions. I could have escaped, but would not till all hope was gone and was shot, about the only one of our forces left on the field. Our cause is just and our generals, not the enemy's have defeated us. In God's good time he will give us victory.

"And now good-bye, wife and children. Bring them up in the fear of God and love for the Savior.

"But for you and the dear ones dependent I should die happy. I know the blow will fall with crushing weight on you. Trust to Him who gave manna in the wilderness. Dr. Nash is with me. It is now after midnight and I spent most of the night in sending messages to you. Two bullets have gone through my chest and directly through the lungs. I suffer but little now, at first the pain was acute. I have won the soldier's name and am ready to meet now as I must the soldier's fate. I hope that from heaven I may see the glorious old flag wave again over the undivided Union I have loved so well.

"Farewell, wife, babies and friends. We shall meet again. Your loving

"Thornton."

This noble man who thus died that his country might live was the son of a New England clergyman, born in New Hampshire in 1822. He graduated at Harvard Law School and served in the Mexican War as an officer of the 15th United States Infantry, in which he was twice breveted for gallantry in battle. Sustained by love of God and country, his last letter to his dear ones at home is another of the many glorious tokens of how cheerfully the Christian can die.

T. D. McGillicuddy,

March 19, 1896. Military Historian.

DEATH OF MRS. SOPHIA [CURTIS.

[Daily Record, July 20, 1896.]

Sunday morning at 5 o'clock occurred the death of Mrs. Sophia Jones Curtis, a life long resident of the valley, and a descendant of its first settlers, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Hayward, in Kingston, at the advanced age of 83 years. The deceased was a member of a historic family. Her maternal grandfather, Col. William Gallup, emigrated to the valley with the first Connecticut settlers and was present at the massacre of Wyoming. It was he who emptied the storage whiskey barrels at the approach of the Indians, lest the latter would get possession of it and become more infuriated and bloodthirsty. His daughter, Hannah (Gallup) Jones, mother of the deceased, was also present at the fort and was captured by the Indians. She was set at liberty, however, in a short while.

The deceased was married to Charles Ransome Curtis, grandson of Capt. Samuel Ransome, the noted Indian fighter. The Curtis family, many of the members of which achieved military distinction, emigrated to the valley from New London, Conn. The Curtises took a prominent part in the revolution, one of them taking part in the famous battle between the Constitution and the Guerriere. The Curtis family possessed one of the original forty grants, section 2, in Kingston Township. Some of this section is still in the family's possession, notably the old graveyard near the D., L. & W. R. R., Kingston, where the mother of Mrs. Curtis is buried.

Mrs. Curtis was the mother of two children, Mrs. James Hayward and Lorenzo J. Curtis. The latter served in the civil war with distinction and died in January, 1895.

Mrs. Curtis had been a devoted member of the Methodist Church all her life.

The funeral took place Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. H. C. McDermott will officiate. Interment will be in Forty Fort Cemetery.

ANOTHER OLD RESIDENT DEAD.

[Daily Record, July 22, 1896.]

William Heisler, an old and well known resident of Mt. Zion, in Exeter Township, died on Monday night after a long illness. Had he lived until October next he would have been 84 years of age. His wife died fifteen years ago, but three sons survive—John of Orange, Coray and William of Mt. Zion.

DEATH OF MRS. PERRIN.

[Daily Record, July 22, 1896.]

Only the most healthy and vigorous people nowadays exceed the allotted three score years and ten. The pathway of life is so treacherous that few indeed travel it for a greater distance. But it is the duty of the Record this morning to note the death of one who braved the storms of over a century and who has at last laid down the burden and gone to a well earned rest and reward.

Mrs. Lucretia Perrin, whose interesting record as one of the oldest residents of this section of the State has attracted wide attention from time to time, passed away at 3 o'clock Tuesday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Salmon Lewis, at Mt. Zion, in Exeter Township, back of Wyoming, being over 103 years of age.

The cause of death was simply old age. Her relatives say there were no evidences of any particular disease. The aged lady's time for departure had come, and she passed away peacefully without aches or pains. Up to within three or four days of her death, Mrs. Perrin had been able to be about the house, says the Pittston Gazette, and up to the very end she retained her faculties and was conscious of what was going on around her. All of her daughters were at her bedside and she recognized them and conversed intelligently. She realized clearly that the end was near, and protested against taking medicine. Then, just as day was breaking, her spirit took its flight to the eternal regions.

Mrs. Perrin was born in Andover, New Hampshire, April 15, 1793, as recorded in her old family bible, and was therefore 103 years, 3 months and 6 days old. Her father, Joshua Danforth, was a Revolutionary soldier, and served throughout the war, a term of seven years and five months. When quite a young girl she removed to Queensbury, Warren County, N. Y., near Saratoga Springs. She was married when about 20 years old to Abiathar Shippy, who was some five years her senior. They had a family of thirteen children, of whom four are still living, as follows: Esther, wife of Daniel Bidleman of Factoryville, born Nov. 18, 1820; Lewis A. Shippy of Exeter Township, born June 1, 1833; Mary, widow of Charles Montayne of West Pittston, born June 1, 1833, being a twin of Lewis; Clarinda, wife of Salmon Lewis of Mt. Zion, born March 26, 1836.

On the occasion of Mrs. Perrin's centennial anniversary a family gathering was held at the Lewis home in Exeter, when all but two of the seven children then surviving were present. The eldest then, Mrs. Olive Whitlock, was in her eightieth year, but she has since died, and the aged mother was able to attend the funeral. Representatives of five generations attended the centennial anniversary, and the number of her own living blood relation was then found to have been 145.

Mrs. Perrin's first husband died in 1840, and three years later she was married to Calvin Perrin of Northmoreland, who died thirteen years ago at the age of 90. There were no children by the second marriage. Mrs. Perrin's second husband served in the war of 1812, and she was up to the time of her death a pensioner of the United States government.

To the editor of the Gazette, on a visit which he made to Mrs. Perrin shortly after she had passed her 100th birthday anniversary, she related with interesting detail the story of her conversion at Glen Falls, N. Y., about the year 1816. She was baptized by Elder Swayne and united with the Baptist Church at the time mentioned. She spoke earnestly of her trust and blessed hope in Christ. She said she moved from New York State to Carbondale with her first husband in 1819. The latter built the first house there, she said, and helped build the Delaware & Hudson road from Carbondale to Honesdale.

Although her eyes appeared bright she had little sight and was able only to distinguish forms, but she readily recognized many acquaintances and old friends by their voices. Since her residence in Northmoreland and Exeter Mrs. Perrin has been a member of the Northmoreland Baptist Church and attended divine services regularly as long as she was able to be driven to the church.

Arrangements have been made for the funeral of Mrs. Perrin to take place on Thursday afternoon, with services in the Mt. Zion Church at 2 o'clock and interment in the Mt. Zion Cemetery. Rev. Abel Wrixley of Carverton will have charge of the services and he will be assisted by Rev. J. S. Lewis of West Pittston.

The death of Mrs. Perrin leaves Mrs. Reidy, who lives near her, the oldest person in Luzerne County, and the only person over 100 years old. Mrs. Reidy is said to be 105 years old.

FAMILY NOTED FOR LONGEVITY.

[Pittston Gazette, July 26, 1896.]

A few evenings ago there was a gathering of the relatives of the late Mrs. Lucretia Perrin, who died last week, aged over 103 years, at the home of Salmon Lewis in Exeter Township, when the number of Mrs. Perrin's living descendants were counted up. It was found that there are 63 grandchildren, 148 great grandchildren and 21 great great grandchildren. Add to these the number of Mrs. Perrin's children, including their husbands or wives—nine in all—and the total is 241. The descendants are divided as follows: Mrs. Olive Whitlock—seven grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and eleven great great grandchildren; Mrs. Cinderella Capwell—eleven grandchildren, thirty-four great grandchildren and seven great great grandchildren; George Shippy—five grandchildren and two great grandchildren; Mrs. Esther Bidleman—thirteen grandchildren, thirty-three great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren; Mrs. Sarah Capwell—nine grandchildren, twenty-four great grandchildren and one great great grandchild; Lewis Shippy—eight grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren; Mrs. Mary Mantanye—four grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren; Mrs. Clara Lewis—six grandchildren and ten great grandchildren.

OLD WHITE HAVEN RESIDENT.

[Daily Record, July 23, 1896.]

One of the oldest and best known citizens of White Haven, A. F. Peters, died on Wednesday morning at 5 o'clock, after an illness of four weeks. Mr. Peters had been afflicted with a stomach trouble, which was in a sense aggravated by the hot weather of the past two weeks. The deceased had been a resident of White Haven for over fifty years, having taken up his residence there in 1844, coming from Lehigh County, this State, where he was born.

He was a son of Abram and Elizabeth (Fritzing) Peters. Deceased at 15 years of age worked on a farm and continued this until 1837, when he learned the tailor's trade and worked at that for six years. When he came to White Haven in 1844 he worked as a tailor for one year and then worked for two years in Reuben Schuler's general store. Then he followed boating for one year and then rented a saw mill from Reuben Schuler and in 1869 purchased the mill

and until 1888 did a large business. He then retired, owing to the fact that lumber became very scarce. Mr. Peters was married in May, 1848, to Miss Savina, daughter of John and Mary (Houser) Kleckner, natives of Pennsylvania.

Deceased was aged 76 years, and during his long residence at White Haven was an active and far-seeing business man. His well-known conservatism and the sense of business honor he always displayed in his dealings with those with whom he was associated, as well as the zeal with which he practiced the teachings of the golden rule, gained for him the universal respect of the community. The fruit of his energy and foresight is a large estate, undoubtedly the most valuable of any of White Haven, which he leaves to his family. For many years he was a director in the Allentown National Bank, and at the time of his death was a director in the water company, president of the White Haven Savings Bank, and a leading member and officer of the Presbyterian Church. His business interests were principally in the lumber line for many years, and besides his numerous holdings in this county he was largely interested in Western matters. While living the deceased had a dread of his remains being interred in the earth. He was one of the promoters and a director of the Laurel Cemetery at White Haven, and a number of years ago he caused to be erected, at a cost of about \$15,000, a large granite sarcophagus. The interior has twelve copper enclosures, or shelves, each of which after becoming the receptacle of a body will be hermetically sealed. His remains will be the first to be deposited within one of its recesses. He leaves a wife and three children, one daughter, Miss Mina, having married William Hoffecker, of Elizabeth, N. J., who is master mechanic of the Jersey Central R. R. at that place. Another daughter, Adelia, married J. J. Becker, Jr., a prominent druggist of White Haven, while the only son, M. G. Peters, survives and conducts the various business interests of the deceased. He was a brother of Mrs. Hiram Beers of Stanton street, this city, and W. D. Beers, the merchant, is his nephew. The many acts of unobtrusive charity to unfortunate neighbors performed by Mr. Peters were greatly appreciated, and the judgment of the community in which he so long lived is that it has lost a leading citizen and an honest Christian man.

ANOTHER PENN SUIT.

[Daily Record, July 31, 1896.]

William Duguld Stuart, claiming to be the only living heir of William Penn, has brought action against Jacob Bryant, and claims \$19,000 damages. The plaintiff bases his action upon alleged acts of trespass committed at various times between 1890 and 1896, in which the defendant is charged with breaking into a certain grove in Plymouth Township, known in the last century as the manor of Sunbury and cutting down trees and pollards of the plaintiff. The damage claimed is as follows: Five hundred pine trees valued at \$2,500; five hundred oak trees valued at \$1,500; five hundred hemlock trees valued at \$1,500; and 500 other varieties of trees valued at \$1,000.

The plaintiff is the alleged heir of William Penn, who recently came from England to look after various tracts of land in Pennsylvania which had been held by the Penn family and heirs since the time the illustrious William secured the land from the Indians by the Penn treaty of 1682.

OLD MORAVIAN CHURCH.

[Daily Record, July 28, 1896.]

The 149th annual love feast of the Moravian congregation of Emaus, Lehigh County, was observed on Sunday, says an exchange. The services were conducted by Rev. P. F. Rommel, the pastor, and were of a very impressive character. The interior of the church was handsomely decorated with evergreens and flowers. This is the 149th time that this feast has been observed by the congregation, which has a history of unusual interest.

As early as 1741 Count Zinzendorf preached at Emaus, but it was not until July 30, 1747, that a regular congregation was founded. It had no regular pastor, but was supplied by missionaries from Bethlehem. Not long after a school house was built there the education of the children was begun. It was here that the nucleus of what is now the Moravian Seminary, Bethlehem, was formed. In 1758 the Indians in the vicinity of Emaus became very troublesome and the school children were removed to Bethlehem.

In 1776 the second church was built, which, like the first, was of logs. In 1833 the present church edifice was side of it. The congregation also main-

erected, as also the parsonage along-tains a cemetery near the church, where people have been buried for 150 years.

During the 149 years' history of the congregation it has been served by forty pastors, the present pastor, Rev. P. F. Rommel, having been called five years ago. Next year the 150th anniversary of the church will be celebrated with much ceremony.

WHAT THE TERM "CERTIFIED" MEANS.

The Record has been shown an article by Charles I. A. Chapman, in which he gives a most satisfactory account of the origin of the word "certified" as applied to road lines and tracts within Luzerne County. Going as it does, quite deeply into the history of the land contest between Connecticut and Pennsylvania, the article transcends the limits of a moderate newspaper article. After tracing the subject down to the Decree of Trenton in 1783, Mr. Chapman concludes thus:

"The State of Pennsylvania viewed with great displeasure the growth of a colony within her borders which refused to acknowledge her jurisdiction. She applied to the Continental Congress requesting the appointment of a tribunal which should be authorized to determine all matters in dispute.

"A tribunal was accordingly appointed and notice of its meeting given—the same to be held at Trenton, New Jersey.

"Before this tribunal appeared Messrs. Dyer, Johnson and Root for Connecticut, and Messrs. Bradford, Reed, Wilson and Sargent for Pennsylvania. After mature deliberation of five weeks the board, on 30th December, 1782, pronounced their opinion as follows: 'We are unanimously of opinion that the State of Connecticut has no right to the land in controversy. We are also unanimously of the opinion that the jurisdiction and preemption of all lands lying within the charter bounds of Pennsylvania and now claimed by the State of Connecticut do of right belong to Pennsylvania.'

"The inhabitants at Wyoming considered the question before the court at Trenton to be a question of jurisdiction only, not one in any way affecting the right of soil. They considered that the State of Connecticut had conveyed her interest in the soil to the Susquehanna Co. and had, therefore, strictly in the language of the court, 'No right to the land in controversy.' They, therefore,

cheerfully acquiesced in the decision and at once memorialized the General Assembly of Pennsylvania in an address closing as follows: 'By this adjudication we are under your jurisdiction and protection. We care not under what State we live if we live protected and happy. We will serve you, we will fight your battles, but in mercy, justice, wisdom and every other great and generous principle leave us our possessions, the pledge of brothers, children and fathers, which their hands have cultivated and their blood enriched.'

"This touching appeal produced no effect upon the heartless speculators who were now controlling the affairs of the State of Pennsylvania.

"Two companies of Pennsylvania militia were ordered to Wyoming and commenced ousting the Connecticut men from their farms and tenements. These violent proceedings continued without abatement and were the cause of untold suffering; for the householder saw his barns on fire, his stock driven off and himself and family consigned to a state of wretchedness hitherto unknown in the colonies.

"The resistance on the part of the settlers was such that orders were issued by the Pennsylvania council for the enlistment of three hundred light infantry and fifteen light dragoons to be officered and directed by the Hon. John Boyd and Col. John Armstrong, commissioners—to march at once for the 'reduction of Wyoming.'

"The cruel reprisals and conflicts of this predatory warfare continued with varying success on either side until March, 1787, when the Connecticut settlers, hopeless of justice towards their claim, made a proposition of compromise to the General Assembly, proposing that if 'there should be granted to them the seventeen townships which had been laid out and partially settled previous to the Trenton Decree they would on their part relinquish all claim to any other lands within the limits of the Susquehanna purchase.' These seventeen townships were the townships now embraced in the Valley of Wyoming and in addition Huntington and Bedford on the south, Providence and Exeter on the north, and above, in the Valley of the Susquehanna, the towns of Northmoreland, Putnam, Braintrim, Springfield, Clayvace and Ulster, now constituting large portions of Wyoming, Susquehanna and Bradford counties.

"This proposition of compromise, together with the action

of what was known as the 'Council of Censors' (a body constituted under the State of Pennsylvania to examine at intervals all acts of oppression), brought the sufferings of the oppressed settlers strongly before the view of the rest of the State. An act was passed erecting all territory north of the 'Nescopec Falls' into a county called 'Luzerne.' From this time Wyoming was represented in the Pennsylvania legislature and the fate of the vania legislature and the fate of her

"On the 28th of March, 1787, an act was passed complying with the request of the inhabitants. Commissioners were appointed to cause a re-survey of the lots claimed by the settlers and to give them "certificates" of the regularity of their claims. This commission, composed of Timothy Pickering, William Montgomery and Stephen Balliot (subsequently Peter Muhlenberg), proceeded to Wyoming and entered upon the duties of their appointments. Although a very large proportion of the inhabitants resided within the "seventeen townships" yet many owned farms and lived without those bounds and being not reached by the terms of the act of December, '86, and March, '87, they made a determined opposition to a settlement which would apparently leave them without hope. Under the smart of these feelings and anticipations occurred the "abduction" of Pickering, the subsequent arrest of John Franklin and other violent proceedings. But at length the cool common sense of the settlers prevailed. At length both sides becoming weary of farther conflict and estrangement and the rights of the settlers becoming well understood at Harrisburg, an act was passed in April, 1789, providing for a final settlement of the controversy. Under this act a board of commissioners proceeded to divide the lands into four classes, according to quality, and to confirm the titles. Also to resurvey all the lands claimed under Pennsylvania titles which should be released by the Pennsylvania holders, to issue patents to all thus satisfied and placing themselves under the spirit and terms of the compromise law, and finally, to arrange every matter in the most just and satisfactory manner possible under all circumstances.

"The provisions of this act were fully carried out and peace and harmony ensued. Such, my dear sir, is the history, told as briefly as possible, of the celebrated Wyoming Civil War of 1770-90,

It was a contest for the principles of eternal justice and right waged against "spiritual wickedness in high places" backed by the usurped power of a mighty Commonwealth. Let the people of Pennsylvania and the other great States of the confederacy beware lest we now (1896) plunge again into a similar labyrinth of contention.

C. I. A. Chapman.

JASPER PARRISH'S FAMILY.

Some time ago the Record contained a brief item about one Parrish who was captured by the Indians "near Wyoming." Some further details will be interesting.

This Parrish family lived at the Wallenpaupack settlement in what is now Pike County, as will be seen in Miner's history of Wyoming, page 470. The dreadful news of the massacre of Wyoming, July 3, 1778, was conveyed to the Wallenpaupack people by Lebbeus Hammond, who, it will be remembered, was one of the two prisoners who escaped from the Indian Queen Esther's rock. The inhabitants prepared for immediate flight to the settlements further East as they knew the Indians would come their way next, which they did. Capt. Zebulon Parrish, his son Jasper, and Stephen Kimble hastened to warn their neighbors of the Lackawaxen settlement, but in making this attempt they fell into the hands of some prowling savages and were taken to the State of New York, where they were held captive until the Revolutionary war was ended. After peace was made Capt. Parrish returned to his family. His son Jasper was able to turn his captivity to advantage, for having acquired the Indian language he was appointed an interpreter by the government and was employed in intercourse with the Six Nations until his death in 1836, which occurred at Canandaigua. Young Kimble died in captivity.

Capt. Zebulon Parrish had another son, Stephen, who was also captured by the Indians about the same time as the flight from Wallenpaupack. While in captivity he ingratiated himself into the affections of the Indians and was taught by them the mysteries of their medical practice. He was released when the war closed, practiced herb doctoring and died near Canandaigua. He was known as Doctor Parrish.

FORMED A CHAPTER AT LAKE CAREY.

[Daily Record, Aug. 4, 1896.]

The Record's Tunkhannock correspondent sends the following:

A dinner party was given last Friday by Mrs. Alvin Day and Mrs. James W. Piatt at the cottage of the latter at Lake Carey, at which the following guests were present: Thomas Ford and wife, Joseph Langford and wife, Samuel Fear and wife, George Johnson and wife, Mrs. Fannie Urquhart, Mrs. Annette Gorman, Howard Fear, Burton Towner, Mrs. C. I. A. Chapman, Mrs. J. W. Nimmo of Pittston, Mrs. Steuben Jenkins, J. D. Green and wife of Wyoming, William A. Wilcox and wife of Scranton, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Seeley and son Paul of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Mrs. Esther Hice, Miss Nellie and Robert Morgan of Wilkes-Barre, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley W. Little of Towanda, Misses Sadie and Estella Hallock of Campville, N. Y., and Mr. and Mrs. S. Judson Stark of Tunkhannock. The occasion which brought this company together was the forming of a chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution. The company did not take any decided steps towards organization. Eligibility of members was discussed and it is probable that a society will be organized. There is a similar organization in Wilkes-Barre. One of the requisites for membership is to be able to trace one's ancestry back to the defenders of youthful America. These organizations are for the purpose of keeping fresh in mind the brave deeds of those who fought for our independence.

LARGE FAMILY TREE.

Frank Helme, Sr., one of Kingston's most prominent residents, reached the eightieth milestone in his journey through life Aug. 7, 1896, and the event was appropriately observed. All of the members of his family were present, as well as a number of his nieces and nephews from a distance. Mr. Helme, although an octogenarian, was one of the merriest in the throng and entered freely into every discussion that was brought up during the day. The afternoon was pleasantly spent. At 4 o'clock dinner was served. The dining room was tastily decorated with palms and flowers and the tables were adorned with sweet peas. The parlors were

also given a pleasing appearance by floral decorations. In one corner was a pretty floral horseshoe, on one side of which was the date of Mr. Helme's birth and on the other "1896."

Mr. Helme has been a life long resident of this valley. He is a son of Major Oliver Helme, who fifty years ago was one of the most prominent citizens of the county. He was at one time sheriff of the county. Major Helme came from Rhode Island to the valley. He was born at South Kingston, Rhode Island; raised at North Kingston and died at Kingston, Pa. He was of English descent on his paternal side and French Huguenot on his maternal.

Mr. Helme, in whose honor the day's celebration was given, was born on Ross Hill, now Edwardsville, Aug. 7, 1816. His parents removed to Wilkes-Barre when he was quite young. As a Wilkes-Barre boy he was contemporary with Charles and George Parrish. In 1832 the family removed to Montrose, remaining there three years. At the end of that time they came back to Kingston and have resided there since.

Mr. Helme has been an active business man and farmer all his life. He has been one of the most intelligent, systematic and successful farmers of the valley and by his industry has accumulated considerable real estate. He never took other farmer's theories, but always experimented for himself. For his age he has wonderful vitality and hardly ever knew what it was to be sick. The only physical weakness he has is his eyesight, which is growing dim. He has always been an uncompromising Republican and even that day did not miss an opportunity to get in a word for sound money, protection and McKinley. Mr. Helme's wife died eighteen years ago. He has two children, Frank, who resides at home, and Mrs. P. M. Carhart of Kingston.

Among the members of the family at the celebration were: Mrs. Thomas Hooen of Englewood, N. J.; Mr. Helme's only sister; Mr. and Mrs. George D. Helme, Helmetta, N. J.; Joseph Greason, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Carhart, Belvidere, N. J.; Dr. and Mrs. Horn and daughter, Mauch Chunk, and Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Carhart, Kingston, and Frank Helme.

Mr. Helme received a number of handsome presents.

HIS GRAVE REMAINS UNMARKED.

The Record a couple of times alluded to the fact that near Honesdale lies buried the remains of Gen. Samuel Meredith, the first treasurer of the United States and a patriot who was one of the first to lift his voice for independence and to contribute liberally to the nation's coffers out of his private purse when money was most urgently needed, not a cent having ever been returned to him or his heirs. The fact has also been alluded to that his grave is neglected and is marked by only a worn flat stone. A writer in the *Scranton Truth* revives the subject and says:

"Our country is rich, as it should be, in monuments to Washington. Every pretentious municipality has one or more memorials in living stone to the Father of His Country, but the most magnificent one is in the city which bears his name. It is the loftiest artificial structure in the world. The base is fifty-five feet, one and one-half inches square. Five hundred feet from the grounds the four sides of the monument are thirty-five feet wide and this square forms the base of a pyramid which terminates in a point constructed on the largest piece of aluminum ever made. The lower portion of the pyramid is blue granite and the upper part is of marble. In the interior are 100 memorial stones, the gifts of States and cities of the United States and of foreign countries and societies. This is the world's greatest cenotaph. 'From turret to foundation stone' it stands 322 feet and Gen. Lew Wallace says the prospect from the top of it is 'beautiful beyond conception.' So much for the nation's finest tribute to the greatest hero, Lincoln not excepted, who ever breathed.

"In among the foot hills of the Moosic Mountains in our own State of Pennsylvania, in our own county of Wayne, and not far from our sister village of Pleasant Mount, lie the remains of the first treasurer of the United States and one of the heroes of our revolutionary war, Gen. Samuel Meredith. His grave is marked only by a time-worn, moss-grown, mouldering marble slab, simply inscribed and giving not the faintest hint of the history of him who lies there. 'Samuel Meredith,' is all it says, 'Died Feb. 10, 1817 in the 76th year of his age.' That is all the tombstone tells, but that is more than the country at large knows of Samuel Meredith. Yet it was the protestations of such as he that led to the formation of the Boston Tea Party, the party that spilled the 'tea that brews forever.' He was one of the celebrated Silk Stocking Company.

As major he took part in the battles of Princeton and Trenton, acquitting himself so bravely that he was made general of the 4th Brigade, Pennsylvania militia. At the head of that brigade he fought at Brandywine and Germantown. It is good to fight bravely in a great cause, and Gen. Meredith did so. He followed the flag wherever it led and he heard the death shot hissing, but in the spring of 1780 he gave hardly less substantial proof of his patriotism when he contributed \$25,000 to the support of Washington's suffering soldiers. When the war was done he was twice elected from Philadelphia County to the Pennsylvania colonial assembly. In 1789 he was surveyor of the port of Philadelphia, but Washington called him from there to be the first treasurer of the United States and Alexander Hamilton, the secretary of the treasury, wrote to him as follows:

"Permit me to congratulate you upon your appointment and to assure you of the pleasure I feel in anticipating your co-operation with me in a station in which a character like yours is so truly valuable."

"The funds of the nation were impoverished by the war. It was no easy task therefore to which Samuel Meredith was called, but he manifested such a high order of ability in the discharge of the delicate work that President Adams and after Adams, Jefferson retained him. In 1801 he resigned his office, whereupon the Sage of Monticello wrote him, and after expressing positive sorrow over his resignation said:

"I testify in your favor that you have conducted yourself with perfect integrity and propriety in the duties of the office you have filled, and I pray you to be assured of my highest consideration."

"Thos. Jefferson."

"This is, in brief, the statement of his claim on posterity. He gave his blood and brains and purse to his country's service. Freely, gladly he laid his young manhood, his best time and talents on her altar, but republics are sometimes ungrateful. To-day only the sight-seeing tourist or peripathetic patriot visit his quiet resting place. The mourning maples overhead are his only requiem: the stars on their nocturnal rounds look sadly down on that lowly sepulchre, but not a flower decks it and only

"The night dew that falls as in silence it weeps,
Nurtured with verdure the grave where he sleeps."

"\$1,500,000 for the single cenotaph of Washington and not one cent to garnish the grave of him who should be held in

reverence second to the Father of His Country, him who was Washington's co-worker, counsellor and friend. It is a black blot on the nation's name and our representatives at Washington should do something to erase it."

SCHOOLEY'S BATTERY ANNUAL REUNION.

Battery M, better known as Schooley's Battery, held its twenty-eighth annual reunion at the Eagle Hotel parlors at Pittston Aug. 19, 1896. There was a gratifying attendance of the survivors of the battery. There was a warmth and cordiality in the greetings of the veterans that no other associations can muster up, and as the reminiscent narratives were recounted they made each heart beat quicker.

At 6 o'clock the association held a business meeting, at which officers were elected for the year. The meeting was presided over by W. H. Shaver, the president, of Kingston, B. J. Evans of Pittston acting as secretary. Nominations were made and election resulted as follows:

President, Evan J. Evans of West Pittston; secretary, B. J. Evans of Pittston; treasurer, John Barnes.

A committee consisting of John F. Tench and William Gee was appointed to select a meeting place for the next reunion.

At 8 o'clock the company repaired to the dining room of the hotel, where a banquet was in order. The tables were weighted with seasonable delicacies. At the conclusion of the repast a surprise was in store for the guests. Rev. Dr. W. G. Parke, who was a guest of the association, quietly arose, and on behalf of Mrs. Kate L. Rippard, a nurse in the Presbyterian General Hospital of New York City, presented to president Shaver, for the Battery Association, a costly crayon portrait of her grandfather, Rev. T. P. Hunt, now deceased, the chaplain of the battery. Rev. Dr. Parke's address glowed with happy words eulogistic of the nobility of the soldier's life, of the eminent service of the battery and of its personnel. Having personally known the greater part of the recruits, he spoke feelingly of their military labors. Capt. W. H. Shaver, on behalf of the association, accepted the gift and expressed the heartfelt appreciation of the battery for the kind remembrance. Others of those present were called upon for remarks

and a number of brief talks were given by the banqueters.

Those in attendance at the banquet were: W. H. Shaver and wife, Kingston; C. M. Blackburn, Avoca; J. J. Barber and wife, Chris Van Clerberg, Wilkes-Barre; Merritt Tompkins, Scranton; Jeffrey Hufford, Lake Winola; William Sanders, Avoca; E. S. Powell, Kingston; F. M. Girton and daughter, Miss Anna, Plymouth; Mrs. Margaret Bragg, Daniel Howell and wife, C. Blackwell and wife, George Archer, Pittston; J. B. Anderson, Nanticoke; G. Chamberlain and wife, Pittston; J. M. Alexander, Carbondale; W. Spangenburg and wife, Dunmore; William Linklepaugh and wife, Pittston; Thomas Jenkins, Plymouth; Mercur M. Smith, Forty Fort; Charles H. Dorr, Pittston; B. H. Embleton, Sayre; P. M. Sutton and wife, John Barnes and wife, James Orr, wife and daughter, Joseph Frederick, Pittston; David Thompson, Scranton; C. D. Sanders and wife, Avoca; Evan J. Evans and daughter, Samuel T. Davis, John A. Stone, William Gee, Pittston; L. H. Wint and wife, Scranton; B. J. Evans, A. J. Eggleston, Pittston; Capt. Schooley, U. S. A., Luzerne Borough.

Battery M has a most creditable record in service. It was wholly recruited from the flower of Pittston's manhood. Early in 1862 Battery M, with 144 men, marched toward the front, volunteering its service. The members were at once sent forward and were assigned to duty at Fort Delaware, just below Philadelphia. For two months they remained there, and having labored assiduously in the manual of war, were at that time anything but raw recruits. Their service of sixty days there virtually prepared them for their next work, assisting in the defense of Washington, at which point they were stationed until May, 1864, from whence they went to the front, joining Gen. Grant's army. They participated in the battle of Cold Harbor and won for themselves merited praise from the commanding officers for their courage and valor. Being connected with the Army of the Potomac they assisted in all the engagements in which the division of the Potomac took part. For seventy-one days they joined in the siege of Petersburg.

The Battle of the Crater, which practically was incidental to the Petersburg siege, saw them in the front fighting fearlessly and with the same intrepidity did they acquit themselves at the later engagement at Chapin's Farm, Sept.

29, 1864. Many of their members died at these several engagements. From that time on they were participants in the service in and about Petersburg and Richmond incident to the fall of the Confederacy. During the service 352 men were enrolled on the battery's membership and only seventy-five came back when the battery was mustered out, although some were serving with other sections. The officers of the battery when leaving Pittston in 1862 were: Captain, David Schooley; first lieutenant, U. S. Cook, deceased; second lieutenant, William Gee; first sergeant, A. P. Barber, deceased.

When mustered out in July, 1865, those in command were: Captain, A. P. Barber, vice Schooley, promoted to major; first lieutenant, William Gee; first sergeant, L. H. Wint. Many of the survivors are now substantial and prominent citizens of Pittston and vicinity.

ANOTHER LANDMARK GOING.

[Daily Record, Aug. 11, 1896.]

One of the oldest stone houses in Wilkes-Barre, known as the Dr. Mayer residence on South River street, next to the residence of John N. Conyngham, is being torn down to make room for an addition to the Conyngham lawn and possibly for a new house some day. The house was built in 1803 by John W. Robinson and at that time was considered a fine residence, being one of two houses on the river front, the other being the residence of Jacob Cist.

The house remained a part of the Robinson estate for sixty years and was sold to Dr. Mayer about 1863 for \$6,000. After Dr. Mayer's death it was sold to the Laning estate and a few years ago to Mrs. W. L. Conyngham for \$25,000. John W. Robinson, the builder, came to Wilkes-Barre from Susquehanna county in 1800 and married a daughter of Col. Zebulon Butler. When the turnpike was completed from Easton to this city over the Pocono mountain Mr. Robinson and John P. Arndt kept the leading hotel in Wilkes-Barre, the site being that now occupied by the Darling residence on South River street.

DESCENDANTS OF LORD LOVAT.

The newspapers have recently reported the death of Rev. Horace Fraser, a retired Presbyterian minister, who died on his farm near Westtown, Orange County, N. Y. He was of a historic family, dating back into the thirteenth century.

Mr. Fraser was until his death the oldest living representative of the descendants of Alexander Fraser, his great-grandfather, who came to this country from Scotland on account of political troubles, and settled in Guilford, Conn., in 1745.

Alexander Fraser, the great-grandfather of Horace, who settled in Connecticut, was the second son of Simon Fraser, the Scottish chieftain, known in history as Lord Lovat, born about the year 1676, who was the second son of Thomas Fraser, third son of Hugh, seventh Lord Lovat. Lord Lovat's mother was Sybilla, daughter of the chief of the Macleods. The Frasers were of Norman origin. A Pierre Fraser went to England with William, the Conqueror. His grandson settled in the south of Scotland, whence the family branched off into Aberdeenshire and Invernesshire, the latter branch furnishing most of the Frasers of this country, who now number about 7,000. Simon Fraser was Lord Lovat's twelfth. In the insurrection of 1745 he was charged with trying to play a double game, by sending forth his clan, under the command of his son, to fight for the Pretender and deeply plotting for that cause, while he professed to be a loyal subject. He was a special object of the vengeance of the government, and after a trial by his peers was beheaded on April 9, 1747. It was on account of these political troubles that the son Alexander came to America.

It appears from the Bath (N. Y.) Plaindealer that the Horace Fraser recently deceased was born Feb. 9, 1808, at Steuben, Oneida County, and was one of a family of five girls and four boys. The oldest brother became a Methodist minister, and Horace and his twin brother Oris were Presbyterian clergymen. In 1837 Horace Fraser married Miss Sarah Dey, after whose grandfather Dey street, New York City, was named. Of their six children two only survive, namely: Spencer Lee, of Peoria, Ill., and Mary, who lived with her father.

It may be mentioned that there are numerous descendants of Sir Simon Fraser in Wyoming Valley. The mother of the late Wesley Johnson was Hannah Fraser, one of whose sons, Ovid Fraser Johnson, was attorney general of Philadelphia fifty years ago, and whose son, bearing the same name, is a Philadelphia lawyer. Henry Fraser Johnson of Kingston and Dr. Edwin Fraser Wilson, of Columbus, Ohio, are grandsons of Hannah Fraser.

THE PATTERSON FAMILY.

The following, of historical interest to the friends of the Patterson family, is taken from a letter written to Mr. Dennis Wiant by Ezekiel Patterson No. 4 (now deceased) dated New Brunswick, N. J., May 4, 1883. 1st Archibald Patterson, 2d Ezekiel Patterson, son of Archibald Patterson No. 1. 3d, Thomas Patterson, son of Ezekiel No. 2, married Mary Denison, daughter of Col. Nathan Denison, the first white man married in Wyoming Valley, Pa., at Wilkes-Barre. 4th Robert S. Patterson, son of Thomas Patterson No. 3, and Mary Denison Patterson, married Minerva Trescott, daughter of Robert S. and Minerva T. 27d. 1857. 5th Susan Alice Patterson, daughter of Robert S. and Minerva T. Patterson, married Horace Wiant No. 4, son of Dennis Wiant No. 3, in Huntington Township, Luzerne County, Pa., 12m., 21d. 1882. The letter also gives the genealogy of the Wiants for four generations, the Trescotts and Harrisons for five successive generations.—Shickshinny Echo.

KINGSTON'S NEW SCHOOL.

[Daily Record, July 6, 1896.]

On Saturday morning Kingston's handsome new school building was dedicated, in the presence of 3,000 people, with exercises appropriate to the occasion and the day. The dedicatory exercises were in charge of the P. O. S. of A., and to the untiring efforts of the members of that organization is due the success of the day's program. Previous to the dedication a parade took place.

The dedicatory exercises were held at the west side of the building, where a large platform was erected for the accommodation of the speakers and school directors.

The exercises opened with the patriotic selections, "America," "Hail Columbia" and "Red, White and Blue" by

the Jr. O. U. A. M. Band of Wilkes-Barre. The school children joined in singing "Freedom's Flag." Miss Lulu Morgan followed with an essay, "Beauties of my theology," the theme on which she won a prize at the graduating exercises. Frank D. Cooper gave a declamation, "Abraham Lincoln," also a prize winner at the commencement exercises. A selection by the Molineux Quartet, "Columbia," by Rev. D. D. Jenkins of Uniondale was well received.

The first address was by Dr. Frederick Corss of Kingston. His subject was "Public school progress." The doctor detailed the several stages of the development of the public school in an intelligent manner. The address was divided into two sections. First, who and what are the people who fashioned our schools? Second, what have been the material provisions for schools? Third, what have been the results? He gave a lengthy review of the settlement in Connecticut, where our educational system had its origin, and told of the territory we now occupy. The doctor exhibited a copy of the charter granted April 20, 1662, by Charles the Second to the Connecticut colony, conferring the right to govern the territory from the Narragansett River to the southwest forty leagues. Thence westward to the "South Sea." On March 4, 1681, a charter to William Penn—from New Castle to forty degrees north latitude and westward five degrees longitude—covered this same territory previously granted to Connecticut. At Wyndham, Conn., on July 18, 1753, about 600 of the inhabitants of the Connecticut colony voluntarily associated themselves under the name of the Susquehanna Company for the purpose of planting a colony within the bounds of the mother colony. On July 11, 1754, the Susquehanna Company paid the Indians \$10,000 for lands, in which this valley was included, and which they had already sold to Penn. In 1755 they petitioned the assembly for incorporation, but, not having the power to incorporate or confirm, the assembly simply approved the project and referred the petitioners to the King. Failing to obtain loyal recognition officially they proceeded without it.

The speaker referred to the meeting of the Susquehanna Company at Hartford on Dec. 28, 1768, when the five townships of Wilkes-Barre, Hanover, Kingston, Plymouth and Pittston were granted to forty settlers each. Kingston was the first township occupied. The lands were divided into rights of 400

acres, three whole rights or shares being reserved for the public use of a gospel ministry and schools.

Our public school system began on Sept. 1, 1769, when forty settlers, led by Zebulon Butler, arrived and laid out the land, setting apart the church and school shares.

Under the act of assembly of 1799, lot 9, Third division of Kingston, was surveyed and patented to Elisha Atherton, and this new building stands on a part of this plot. He referred to the establishment of the Wilkes-Barre Academy by act of March 19, 1807, and stated that in 1812 the citizens of Kingston built a two-story frame building above the present residence of John B. Reynolds for an academy. The first teacher was Thomas Bartlett and later W. H. Bissell, the Republican governor of Illinois.

The doctor had a copy of the first edition of the old Webster speller and the old English reader, and he spoke of them as being most excellent school books. He also showed a letter written fifty or sixty years ago by a school girl 15 years of age. He said it did not contain a misspelled word, a misplaced capital letter or a misuse of quotation marks. He ventured the assertion that there was not a girl of her age in the schools today who could do as well. The letter was written to a school mate.

The first course of study adopted for the public schools of Kingston was shown. It was adopted on Aug. 24, 1875, and was the beginning of the present graded school system and the date from which the progress has been so much in the public schools of Kingston.

FIFTY YEARS IN WILKES-BARRE.

July 14, 1896, was the fiftieth anniversary of Simon Long's coming to Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Long was born in Pretzfeld, Bavaria. He, with his sister, Lena, mother of attorney Coons, sailed from Bremen on a small merchant vessel and were on the water forty-nine days before they landed at Castle Garden, New York. They started the next morning for Wilkes-Barre, over the Easton turnpike. They remained in Easton over night and the following night, between 8 and 9 o'clock, came to their journey's end, having taken two days to come by stage over the mountains. For one year he worked as a clerk in the store of Martin Long & Bro. On Nov. 1, 1847, he began business for himself under the name of Simon Long & Co., near the old postoffice, then located on Public

Square, near the hotel now kept by Mr. Featherstone. Mr. Collins was then postmaster. In 1851 Mr. Long married Miss Yetta Coons and by the union there were four boys and five girls, who are respectively: Mrs. Carrie Ullman, Salisbury, Md.; Mrs. Edith Schwartz, Waterbury, Conn.; Mrs. Lena Ullman, Salisbury, Md.; Mrs. Hannah Coons. Mrs. Rosa Schloss, Isaac S. Long, Dr. Charles Long, Millard F. and Gus B. Long of this city. Besides these there are twenty-three grandchildren. On August 8 Mr. Long was 69 years old.

When Mr. Long came to Wilkes-Barre fifty years ago the population was only about 1,800 and there was only one coal mine, the old Baltimore, off from Scott street. There were comparatively few business houses. Where the Wyoming Valley Hotel now stands was the principal hotel of those times, the Phoenix, with Mr. Gilchrist as landlord. The principal stores were kept by Ziba Bennett, Martin Long & Bro., George M. Hollenbach and Mr. Sinton. Joseph Coons and Mr. Meyer kept the only exclusively clothing stores previous to Mr. Long.

Mr. Long has seen Wilkes-Barre grow into a large modern city and has interesting stories to tell of the march of progress. His own business has increased from a small one to one of the largest in this section of the State.

DIED IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY.

Joseph Lynn, who died in Freemansburg, Northampton County, on July 11, 1896, of a tumorous growth in the stomach, aged 53 years, was for a while a resident of Wilkes-Barre. After learning the trade of a printer, he purchased the Carbon County Democrat in 1865 of W. H. Hibbs, who retired from that paper and returned to Wilkes-Barre and purchased the Luzerne Union. In 1869 he disposed of the Democrat to William F. Frisey of Lock Haven, and came to Wilkes-Barre to enter into partnership with Mr. Hibbs in the Luzerne Union, but abandoned his enterprise here and returned to Mauch Chunk and resumed the proprietorship of the Democrat. When he sold out the Democrat he returned to Freemansburg, and has since resided there, carrying on the lime manufacturing business.

Mr. Lynn was married to Miss Alice Cooper, daughter of the late Congressman Cooper of Coopersburg, who survives him with two sons, Carl and Harry.

A CHAUTAUQUA FOUNDER DEAD.

On July 21, 1896, there died at Jamestown, N. Y., one of the founders of the great Chautauqua Assembly, and as he was born in Wilkes-Barre and has many friends here, the Record gives some space to a sketch of his life. Reference is made to Milton Bailey, who was a cousin to W. F. Bailey and a boyhood friend of Calvin Parsons, who is not so old by three years.

Milton Bailey was born near Wilkes-Barre, Feb. 13, 1812, being next to the youngest in a family of nine children and the only survivor. Up to manhood his life was that common to the families of pioneers in the early years of the century. From the vocations of school teacher and accountant he entered active business life for himself and from that time until a few years previous to his death he was engaged in business as a manufacturer or merchant and was ceaseless in his activity, possessing an energy which knew no cessation. In 1863 the subject of this sketch was ordained a lay minister in the Methodist Church at Ashtabula, O., of which denomination he had been a member since 1840.

During the years following his ordination he performed much ministerial work, his last sermon having been preached within the past three years.

In 1864 Milton Bailey moved with his family to Jamestown from Corydon, in the western part of Pennsylvania, where he owned lumber mills and from that time until his death his residence was at Jamestown. Mr. Bailey is survived by his wife, Fanny Andrews Bailey, to whom he was married in 1856, and three sons, Lieut. Charles Justin, B. Milton and William S., one daughter, Mary, having preceded him to rest nine years ago on the very date of his death. Mrs. C. F. Shindel and Mrs. K. E. Van Arnum, daughters by a previous marriage, also survive his death. One son by this marriage was lost in the Rebellion.

He was a son of Benjamin Bailey, who came to Wilkes-Barre at an early day and his mother was a sister of George Gore, also one of the pioneers. Dr. Joel R. Gore, of Chicago, is a near relative and it is interesting to note that both are vice presidents of the Wyoming Commemorative Association and both were present at the exercises two years ago. Dr. Gore, aged 83, and Mr. Bailey, aged 82. It is only a few weeks ago (June 8) that Mr. Bailey wrote to the secretary of the association, remitting

his dues, and after alluding to the fact that he had met with some financial reverses, and was therefore unable to subscribe as much as he would wish, he remarked:

"But I will risk the impropriety of my saying that I am more independent than some men with a dozen farms. The good Creator sent three sons to my happy home who, though neither of them owning a fortune, are as good to me as if they each were in ownership of competence of worldly goods in full. I should delight to be present at the services on the grounds on July 3d inst., but that will be impossible. The monument stands within two miles of the place of my birth. The old Susquehanna rolling between and the whole location and surroundings are classic grounds to me. I hope to send you the paltry sum of \$1 a year from now, but indications too plainly impress me that before the twelve short months that make up the passing year shall come and go I shall be on the other side of the narrow stream that separates this good land from the glorious and better land beyond. I am only waiting for the welcome summons to step across. Very sincerely yours,

Milton Bailey."

He was one of a large family, his brothers being Sidney, Benajah, Frank, Avery and Daniel. His brother Benajah married Calvin Parsons's sister, Parna.

The following editorial tribute in the Jamestown Journal (from which paper some of the biographical facts are taken) shows the high esteem he was held during a more than thirty years' residence in that city:

"The death of Milton Bailey removes a rugged character who will be missed by the community. Of blameless life and strong convictions, he stood for courage of principle, indomitable purpose and tireless energy. He was a venerable and respected landmark whose sincerity and high purpose were conceded by those who differed from him. Mr. Bailey was identified with the early history of our public school system, and he was for a number of years a member of the board of education. He was one of the party which went from this city to select a camp meeting site on the shore of Chatauqua Lake. They picked out the spot originally known as Fair Point and afterwards merged into the Chatauqua assembly grounds. Mr. Bailey was one of the founders of the Chatauquan.

These publications by reason of the spread of the Chatauqua movement attained world wide prominence. Mr. Bailey was one of Chatauqua's firmest friends. He was fully alive to the duties of citizenship and never shirked responsibility. The claims of charity were never unheeded by him and his faith in humanity was too generous for his own success. He was a good man and leaves the heritage of an honest name."

CLARK FAMILY REUNION.

[Daily Record, Sept. 7, 1896.]

John Clark moved from New Providence, N. J., to Wilkes-Barre in 1783 and to Plains Township in 1791, at which latter place he died in 1838. On Saturday, 5th inst., 183 descendants to the number of 125 met at Harvey's Lake for their second annual reunion. The rain interfered somewhat with the arrangements, but an enjoyable time was had by all. Stephen Clark and wife of Falls, Wyoming County, each 80 years old; Calista Clark of Beaumont, Wyoming County, past 78; Jane Clark of Beaumont and John Williams and wife of Plains Township, over 70, enjoyed the meeting equally with those of younger years.

The family meeting was held at 2 p. m. in one of the pavilions on the picnic ground and addresses were made by various members of the family. Orcutt's Grove camp ground (on the old Philemon Clark homestead) was agreed upon for next year's meeting. John M. Clark of Beaumont was elected president of the association and G. J. Clark of Luzerne Borough secretary. No deaths have occurred in the family since the last meeting. The reunion closed with all joining in singing "God Be with You Till We Meet Again."

The following were in attendance: Sidney Mears, Scranton; Mrs. J. R. Meredith of Dagus Mines, Elk County; Mrs. Melissa Farr of Forkston, Wyoming County; Miss Mary Newton, East Orange, N. J.; Mrs. Frank Shaw and family of Sayre; Mrs. Melissa Major and family of Dorranceton; Mrs. Judson Pace of Mayfield, Pa.; Stephen Clark and wife and Mrs. Lizzie Turn and family of Falls, Wyoming County; Mrs. George Cook and family of Tunkhannock; George Orcutt and family. Mrs. Lyman Lutes, Hiram Mosier and wife and daughter of Bowman's Creek; William Jackson and family, E. H. Clark and family, Mrs. Jane Clark, Mrs. Calista Clark, G. F. Clark and son, John M. Clark and family, Elisha Mathers and family, S. G. Freeman and family, Mrs. Eurania Richards and family of Beau-

mont; Joseph Winters and family of Centremoreland; Frank Gay and family, William Gay and wife and William Brace and family of Franklin Township; L. D. Koehler and wife and Lewis Koehler and family of Ruggles; Hamilton Koehler and wife of Harvey's Lake; George B. Schooley and wife, Mrs. Frank Holschuh, U. G. Jaquish and family, G. J. Clark and family and James Turner of Luzerne Borough; E. D. Schooley and family and D. S. Clark and family of Kingston; R. B. Huff and family and Warren J. Baker and wife of Town Hill; E. H. Clark and family of Plains; George Clark and family, John Williams and wife and Sybil Clark of Plainsville; Arthur Clark and family of Forty Fort; John F. Clark and family of West Pittston; Miles Vantuyt and family of South Eaton; Mr. and Mrs. Van Sickle and child of Pittston. Letters were read from J. B. Doty of New Columbus, Mrs. R. M. Rowland of Forreton, Ogle County, Ill., and John W. Clark of Scranton.

PROTECTED FROM RELIC HUNTERS.

The Wyoming Commemorative Association has been compelled to protect the Wyoming Monument from the practice of chipping pieces from it by having erected a substantial iron fence, placed around the base of the monument. It is about six feet high and about twenty-five feet square. At the rear is a gate which will be secured by a lock.

A RELIC OF THE WAR OF 1812.

[Wyalusing Rocket.]

G. G. Jackson of Terrytown has a souvenir of the war of 1812, of which he is very proud and which is worthy of the high place in his esteem in which it is held. It is an officer's sword captured by his grandfather from Gen. Reil at Lundy's Lane. The grandfather Jackson was on picket duty at that place, and during the evening the British officer while on his rounds came to his post when Mr. Jackson made him "stand and deliver," at the bayonet's point, his arms. This sword he brought home with him and it has been handed down from father to son and is now one of Mr. Jackson's most prized trophies.

EXERCISES AT THE MOUNTAIN MONUMENT.

[Daily Record, Sept. 14, 1896.]

The readers of the Record have already been apprised of the fact that Mrs. Martha Bennett Phelps has erected a monument on the Wilkes-Barre Mountain to mark the spot where several Revolutionary officers and men were ambushed and slain by Indians in 1779. The dedicatory exercises took place on Saturday afternoon and were most enjoyable in character. The 1:15 p. m. train took up a hundred or more persons, mostly members of the patriotic societies, as shown by their badges. On arriving at Oliver's Mills a heavy rain was falling, but the company found shelter in the station until the storm, which was only a summer shower, had passed. It had been intended to have the exercises at the monument, but owing to the wetness of things the plan was changed and the guests were taken in conveyances to Wyndcliffe, the summer home of Mrs. Phelps, on the summit of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain.

The monument is near a spring along the roadside about half way between the railway station at Laurel Run and the top of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain, on the left side as you go up the mountain. It is of mountain red-stone, a substantial square column as high as a man's head, bearing this inscription:

"Near this spot, April 23, 1779, Capt. Davis, Lieut. Jones, Corp. Butler and two privates, belonging to an advance guard of the expedition under Maj. Gen. John Sullivan were scalped, tomahawked and speared by the Indians.

"Their bodies were buried here.

"Those of the two officers were disinterred and buried in Wilkes-Barre, July 29, 1779."

The other face bears this inscription:

"This stone is given to the care of the Sons of the Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution of Wilkes-Barre, Pa."

Wyndcliffe with its generous interior and spacious porches proved ample to accommodate the assemblage, and all were given a cordial greeting by Mrs. Phelps and her several sons and daughters and their families. These were Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Z. B. Phelps, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Platt, Miss Anna Phelps. The mantels, doorways and windows were beautified with a

profusion of bright colored autumn leaves. From the front porch could be had glimpses of the Wyoming Valley through the shifting clouds, and in the opposite direction could be seen the borough of Oliver's Mills and the Five Mile Mountain.

On the front porch was stationed Alexander's band. The exercises were brief and informal. Led by the band and J. B. Woodward, the assemblage sang patriotic airs, and a prime feature of the occasion was the address by the hostess, Mrs. John C. Phelps. It gave a graphic account of the historical incident there commemorated. It was not long—occupying, if published in full, about three columns of newspaper space. The master of ceremonies was Mrs. Phelps's son, William G. Phelps, of Binghamton. The paper was read by another son, Francis A. Phelps; and the presentation of the monument was made by still another son, Z. Bennett Phelps of Binghamton.

The invocation was pronounced by Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, the monument to the solemn pomp and gloomy splendor of the display. A rude stone, but the best and neatest the condition of the country allowed them to obtain, was erected by the Masons at the head of the graves in Wilkes-Barre burying ground, with a suitable inscription."

After giving the accounts of historians Chapman, Stone and Pearce, the essay quoted from several of the diaries of the officers in Sullivan's army:

Lieut. Col. Henry Dearborn, commanding the Third New Hampshire Regiment, June 21, 1779: "Enter'd what was gracefully accepted on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution by Mrs. Katherine S. McCartney, regent of Wyoming Valley Chapter, and by Rev. Horace E. Hayden on behalf of the local section of the Sons of the Revolution. All of the several addresses were brief, hearty and patriotic. Mr. Hayden mentioned that as these Revolutionary officers had twice received Masonic burial, it was gratifying for him to receive the monument not only as a Son of the Revolution, but as a Mason.

Refreshments were then served. The ice cream attracted special attention, it being molded into cannon, soldiers and other figures suggestive of war.

The gentlemen and ladies then returned to the train, stopping on the way to read the inscription on the monument.

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Among those present:

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Atherton.

Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Brown, Miss Ella Bowman, George H. Butler, Miss Mary Bowman, Pierce Butler, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Butler, the Misses Elsie, Abi and Carrie Butler, A. Beaumont, Mrs. G. S. Bennett, daughter and son; George R. Bedford, Miss Edith Brower, Miss Julia Butler, Mrs. C. F. Bowman, Pierce Butler of Carbondale, Mrs. Augusta Bennett.

William L. Conyngham, Herbert Conyngham, B. Harry Carpenter, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Ethel Chase and friends, M. H. Cook, Mrs. J. R. Coolbaugh.

Judge A. Darte, L. C. Darte, Miss Dorrance, B. Dorrance, Col. C. B. Dougherty.

Mr. and Mrs. Farnham, Miss Farnham, Liddon Flick.

Mrs. W. G. Graham, Tunkhannock; Miss Bessie Greene, Mrs. Mary Gross.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Hillard, T. R. Hillard, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hunt, Mrs. T. S. Hillard, Rev. Dr. F. B. Hodge, Oliver Hillard, John S. Harding, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Harvey.

Miss Mary Ingham.

E. H. Jones, Mrs. Henry L. Jones, Miss Hattie Jones, L. B. Jones, Carl Jones and friend, Miss H. P. James, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Kulp.

Mrs. W. Leavenworth, Miss Bessie Loveland, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lee, Mrs. Arabella Lewis.

Miss McClure, Mr. and Mrs. Asher Miner, Dr. C. H. Miner, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. McClintock, Mrs. Katherine McCartney, Miss Ella McCartney, Rev. Dr. Mogg and wife, Mrs. W. M. Miller, Miss Martha Maffet.

Mr. and Mrs. R. V. A. Norris, Mrs. T. C. North, Miss Ruth Nicholson.

Miss Fannie Pfouts, Hon. H. W. Palmer and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Parrish and daughter.

Mrs. and Miss Rockafellow, Mrs. B. Reynolds, Mrs. G. M. Reynolds, Judge C. E. Rice and wife, Miss Jennie Reynolds of Scranton.

John Sturdevant, Capt. Straw, Miss Bessie Straw, W. C. Shepherd, Miss Mary Slosson, Mr. and Mrs. John E. Sayre, Miss Martha Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Sea of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac M. Thomas, John Turner.

Mrs. Kittie M. Umsted.

Rev. Dr. H. H. Welles, Miss Charlotte Welles, Miss Wadhams, Mrs. Sarah Wood, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Woodward.

The address was to the Wyoming Historical Society, the Sons of the Revolution, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Colonial Dames, neighbors and friends, and following is a synopsis:

We have met this day to dedicate a stone to the memory of Capt. Joseph Davis of the 11th Pa. Reg., Lieut. William Jones of a Delaware regiment, and as some accounts state it, Corporal Butler and three privates, belonging to a detachment of soldiers of the Revolutionary army under the command of Major-Gen. John Sullivan. Perhaps some of you will ask,—are you sure any bones of Revolutionary soldiers lie near this place? Is this the spring near the Laurel Run, where the savages waited in ambush for the gallant little band? In order to prove our right to erect the memorial on this spot we must bring the testimony of many witnesses:

"It is a matter of history, that Gen. Washington had determined to send a force into the Indian country sufficient at one blow to break up the savage haunts where these great barbarities were planned, and the depredators were harbored. Gen. Sullivan was ordered to rendezvous at Easton, and there prepare his command for their march through the wilderness. He sent to Wyoming from Easton a German regiment of 200 to 300 men under Major Powell, following a few weeks later with the division under his own command."

"The state of affairs in the Valley of Wyoming was better than it had been at any time since the battle of July 3, 1778. A small force consisting of the Wyoming militia under Capt. John Franklin, the Wyoming Company under Capt. Simon Spalding, with two companies of Col. Hartley's regiment (Eleventh Pennsylvania), all under the command of Col. Zebulon Butler, had wintered at Wyoming. Col. Butler, being reinforced also by a German regiment of about three hundred men, was enabled, not only to defend his position, but to clear the open portions of the valley of his cruel and insolent visitors, but small parties of Indians still hovered around Wyoming like wolves around a sheep-fold. They waylaid the passes through the mountain, and occasionally exhibited extraordinary instances of courage and audacity."

the author of the paper said she would indulge in a few personal recollections. In quoting the account of the ambushade as given in Miner's History, Mrs. Phelps alluded to him as follows:

Our venerated historian, the Hon. Charles Miner, whom I remember well as an honored guest at my father's house, where he was almost sure to come in June—often with his blind, though most attractive daughter, Miss Sarah, bringing a bunch of delicate pink roses to my mother, telling her he called the rose the "Lady Bennett," and gallantly comparing it to the blush on her cheek.

"Maj. Powell, commanding two hundred men of a regiment, which had been much reduced by losses in the battle of Germantown, having been ordered to Wyoming, arrived at Bear Creek, about ten miles from the fort, on the night of the 18th of April. Deeming themselves out of danger from a surprise by the Indians, orders were given that officers and men should dress in their best apparel, their arms be newly burnished, and everything be put in order to appear respectably on entering the valley. As was the fashion of the day, the officers wearing ruffles, were also powdered."

Can you imagine the state of the ruffles and powder on the march in this great wilderness, through which the soldiers were cutting their way, and these ruffled officers were turning aside to hunt the deer, on this 23d of April, 1779? But the account runs thus:

"As was the fashion of the day, the officers wearing ruffles, were also powdered. The music, partaking in the excitement of the hour, played their liveliest strains as the party advanced. Deer were reported to have been seen by the vanguard, when Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones, armed with rifles, immediately hastened forward. Near the summit of the second mountain, by the Laurel Run, and about four miles from the fort, a fire was opened upon them by the Indians in ambush, by which Capt. Davis, Lieut. Jones, a corporal by the name of Butler and three men under his command fell."

Mr. Miner adds in a foot note that "the bodies of the two officers, hastily buried, were exhumed the July following, and reinterred with military honors by the brethren of Gen. Sullivan's army and the regiments of Cols. Proctor and Hubley. A band of music, the first whose soul-arousing strains were ever heard in Wyoming, added interest is called the Great Swamp, proceeded 20 miles thro' a horrid, rough, gloomy country, the land covered with pine, spruce, laurel bushes, and hemlock. We eat breakfast at a stream call'd Tunkhannak, we passed another call'd Toby-

hannah, & another the Leahigh. We likewise pass'd what is call'd the Shades of Death; a very gloomy thick part of the Swamp. 22nd.—We marched but 5 miles to a desolate farm, 7 miles from Wyoming. 23rd.—We march'd to the Fort at Wyoming, 7 miles, where we found several reg'ts incamp'd, which are part of our army, our course the 2 last days has been N. West. The whole country from Easton to Wyoming is very poor & barren & I think Such as will never be inhabited it abounds with deer & Rattlesnakes.

Dr. Ebenezer Elmer, surgeon in Second New Jersey Regiment: The journal begins June 18th, 1779, as the army under Gen. Sullivan leaves Easton. These items are the only mention of this part of the route. June 21st.—"Marched at Sunrise and about 6 o'clock Came to the great Swamp which is interspersed with barren, piney spots throughout, very stony. There are three or four Brooks which run thro' it being branches of the Leehigh. In some places the timber is very tall and thick, mostly white pine and hemlock, with some birch, Maple & Locust trees. Many of the white pines are 150 foot clear of any limbs. The last vale of this swamp is called the Shadow of Death. Having come so great a distance, in such bad roads, the waggons did not get in till late in the evening and several broke, some left behind, many horses tired, some died & others lost. We lay all night in a bushy spot among the pine knots, by ye edge of the swamp called the Fatigue Camp. 23rd.—About 12 o'clock we came to our encamping ground on ye banks of the Susquehannah at Wyoming, 65 miles from Easton. The place does by no means answer my expectations, yet it must be acknowledged that the points, & in some places a depth of such a beautiful river running thro' it, navigable for boats, makes it much more agreeable."

Daniel Livermore, captain in the Third New Hampshire Regiment: Wednesday, June 23rd.—"This morning the troops march at seven o'clock, and pass the Bear Swamp and a place called the Shades of Death, by its being a dark, lonesome place. The sun is scarcely to be seen for the trees and bushes. Not far from this place is where Capt. Davis & Lieut. Jones from Pennsylvania, were inhumanly murdered April 18th, 1779 by the savages. During the whole of our march from Easton, we travelled through the most barren part of the country I ever saw, for so far together. At about two P. M.

we arrived at Wyoming. Here is a fertile country. There are 250 widows in the place, whose husbands were slain in Col. Butler's battle.

Lieut. John Jenkins, lieutenant in Capt. Spalding's company:

"April 23—This day Maj. Powell, with a party of men coming in, were waylaid by the Indians near Laurel Run. Capt. Davis, Lieut. Jones and three men were killed and two others missing. About the same time, Indians drove off six cows from Shawnee." Lieut. Jenkins served with Gen. Sullivan as guide to the army, and received thanks of the general in general orders for services rendered. The original manuscript was in the hands of his grandson, Hon. Steuben Jenkins, Wyoming, Pa.

Rev. William Rogers, D. D., chaplain in Hand's Brigade, gives us such a glowing account that we have copied descriptions of three days' march from his journal:

Monday, June 21, 1779—"This day we marched through the Great Swamp and Bear Swamp. The Bear Swamp, which is eleven or twelve miles through, contains what is called in our maps the "Shades of death," by reason of its darkness; both swamps contain trees of amazing height, viz: hemlock, birch, pine, sugar maple, ash, locust, etc. The roads in some places are tolerable, but in other places exceedingly bad, by reason of which three of our wagons and the carriages of two field pieces were broken down. This day we proceeded twenty miles, and encamped late in the evening at a spot which the commander named "Camp Fatigue." The troops were tired and hungry. The road through the swamps is entirely new, being fitted for the passage of our wagons by Cols. Courtlandt and Spencer at the instance of the commander-in-chief, the way leading to Wyoming being before only a blind, narrow path. The new road does its projectors great credit, and must, in a future day, be of essential service to the inhabitants of Wyoming and Easton.

Wednesday, June 23—"The troops prepared themselves for Wyoming, from which we were now distant only seven miles. This day we marched with regularity, and at a distance of three miles came to the place where Capt. Davis and Lieut. Jones, with a corporal and four privates, were scalp-

ed, tomahawked and speared by the savages, fifteen or twenty in number; two boards are fixed at the spot where Davis and Jones fell, with their names on each, Jones's being besmeared with his own blood. In passing this melancholy vale an universal gloom appeared on the countenances of both officers and men without distinction, and from the eyes of many, as by a sudden impulse, dropt the sympathizing tear. Col. Proctor, out of respect to the deceased, ordered the music to play the tune of Roslin Castle, the soft and moving notes of which, together with what so forcibly struck the eye, tended greatly to fill our breasts with pity, and to renew our grief for our worthy departed friends and brethren. Getting within two miles of Wyoming, we had from a fine eminence, an excellent view of the settlement. It lies in a beautiful valley, surrounded by very high ground, the people inhabit up and down the banks of the river and very little back. There were in this settlement, last summer, a court house, a jail and many dwelling houses, all of which, excepting a few scattered ones, were burnt by the savages after the battle of July 3, 1778, which took place near Forty Fort. At present, there are a few log houses newly built, a fort, one or two stockaded redoubts and a row of barracks; the settlement consists of six or more small townships. At the battle before spoken of about 220 men were massacred within the space of an hour and a half, more than a hundred of whom were married men; their widows, afterward, had all their property taken from them, and several of them with their children were made prisoners. It is said Queen Esther of the Six Nations, who was with the enemy, scalped and tomahawked with her own hands, in cold blood, eight or ten persons. The Indian women in general, were guilty of the greatest barbarities. Since this dreadful stroke they have visited the settlement several times, each time killing, or rather torturing to death, more or less. Many of their bones continue yet unburied where the main action happened. Thursday, June 24th—Was introduced to Col. Zebulon Butler, the gentleman of whom much has been said on account of his persevering conduct in opposing the savages. Being St. John's day, a number of Free Masons met at Col. Proctor's marquee; at his request (though not one of the fraternity myself)

read for them the Rev. Dr. Smith's excellent sermon on Masonry."

The essay then gave an account of how Sullivan's officers, on their arrival at Wilkes-Barre, sent back to Laurel Run, and after exhuming the bodies of the two officers gave them an impressive Masonic burial in the village burying ground. Full particulars of this interesting event are given in the Historical Record, volume one, pages 48 and 68.

The mouldering bones lay undisturbed until 1867 when the growing borough of Wilkes-Barre required the abandonment of the burying ground. Again the bones were exhumed and conveyed to Hollenback Cemetery, where they lie in a lot near the main entrance. The ceremonies were again under Masonic auspices and the historical address was made by Sidney Hayden, Esq., of Wyalusing.

The committee from Lodge 61 consisted of E. L. Dana, S. D. Lewis, E. B. Harvey, H. B. Wright, Dr. Urquhart, A. M. Bailey, W. L. Stewart. The procession to Hollenback Cemetery was in the Marshal C. C. Plotz.

Veteran Zouaves.

Veterans of the Rebellion.

Veterans of the Mexican War.

Veterans of 1812.

Scranton Band.

Masonic body consisting of these lodges: Shickshinny; Schiller, of Scranton; Hyde Park; Plymouth; Peter Williamson Lodge of Scranton; Waverly; Union, of Scranton; Carbondale; Lodge 61, of Wilkes-Barre. These comprised over 500 Masons.

Clergymen.

Hearse.

Pall bearers: Cols. H. M. Hoyt, S. H. Sturdevant, William Brisbane, Lieut. Cols. E. S. Osborne, T. C. Harkness, G. N. Reichard, C. M. Conyngham, Oliver Parsons, George Smith. On the way to the cemetery the air "Roslin Castle" was again played, as it had been sixty-eight years before.

Capt. Joseph Davis of Pennsylvania was appointed ensign of the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion, March 27, 1776; first lieutenant January 15, 1777, transferred to the Ninth Pennsylvania Regiment, Continental line; captain, June 5, 1778, new Eleventh Pennsylvania Regiment; killed near Wyoming April 23, 1779.

Tradition has always called this spring, where the ambuscade took place, "Indian Spring." A word for the old Wilkes-Barre and Easton Turnpike, that was for years, to many of us, our

highway into the world beyond the mountains. Our ancestors built it, with much personal care and expense, working out some of their taxes—with their men and teams every year on the old road. It was as great an achievement to them as our railways are to our generation. My father, the Hon. Ziba Bennett, was its last president, and wound up the affairs of the turnpike as a toll road. My grandfather, Hon. Joseph Slocum, who was for many years president of the old turnpike, said in his last days: "They are building a plank road to Slocum Hollow to get to a railroad, and they say a man can go from Wilkes-Barre to New York in a day. It is almost beyond my belief." Then he added sadly: "I wonder what will become of the old turnpike. There is no more use for the old man and the old road."

I have thought if he could return to earth, and ride with us over the fine shale roads, built by our neighbors, Gen. Oliver and Albert Lewis, he would be more surprised and pleased than he would be at the railroads, where trains of loaded cars with their iron horses are daily mounting the steep grade. When a child I took my first journey in the stage coach to Philadelphia, and I remember the strangeness of leaving home in the night. The coach left between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning. I remember how tall and dark the trees were in the vale called the "Shades of Death," and how frightened I grew at the darkness, and how pleasant it was to ride out of the gloom into the sunlight, and after a long drive of four hours in the early morning to find breakfast at Terwilliger's, now Tucker's.

Isaac A. Chapman in his History of Wyoming says: "After the battle of July 3rd, many of the inhabitants were driven from the valley, and compelled to proceed, on foot, sixty miles through the great swamp almost without food or clothing. A number perished in the journey, principally women and children, some died of their wounds, others wandered from the path in search of food and were lost, and those who survived, called the wilderness through which they passed the Shades of Death—an appellation which it has since retained." Only the name of "Shades Creek" and a few weak scions of the mighty trees are left to tell where these wonders grew, which astonished the soldiers, when they cut their way through the great swamp, more than 100 years ago.

Four months after the battle of Wy-

oming, on the 2nd of November, 1778, Frances Slocum, a little girl of 5 years, was stolen by the Indians, never to be seen again by her mother—and by her brothers and sisters only when she was a woman 64 years of age. About forty days after her abduction, Isaac Tripp, her grandfather, and Jonathan Slocum, her father, were speared, tomahawked and scalped by the savages. They were members of the Society of Friends, and had been unmolested by the Indians until Mr. Slocum's eldest son, a boy of 17 years, had joined the band of patriots on the memorable 3d of July; then the family seems to have been a shining mark for Indian vengeance. These being our ancestors, is it not a duty for us to erect this memorial stone to those who helped to make our beautiful valley a safe home for its long suffering inhabitants?

Neighbors and friends, let us make this spot sacred to the immortal memory of these heroes, who were murdered while marching to deliver our ancestors from the savage foe, and who have fallen here in the defense of American liberty.

PORTRAIT OF JOHN SMITH.

[Daily Record, Sept. 15, 1896.]

In the window of Henry C. Tuck & Co.'s drug store, 9 South Main street, may now be seen a good portrait of the late Dr. John Smith of Wilkes-Barre, painted by his granddaughter, Mrs. Carrie Smith Fowler.

The older Wilkes-Barreans will remember Dr. Smith, who was a native of this valley; born at Forty Fort about the year 1789.

His ancestry was highly respected, his grandfather, Timothy Smith, being one of the original "Forty," whose prominent manhood and heroism gave name and historical consequence to that far-famed fortress and well known locality.

Dr. Smith was a son of Benjamin Smith, and married Mehetable Jenkins, a descendant of an old and respected family of the Wyoming Valley.

Nine children were born to them, of whom only two, Thomas N. and Caroline, survive.

The mother of this family died in Wilkes-Barre in 1864; and the father died in 1869, aged 80 years.

Historical mention is made of Dr. Smith, as practicing medicine in the Wyoming Valley in 1820, which makes

the measure of his professional life half a century.

Then the population of Wilkes-Barre was about one hundred times less than it is at present, and in contrast there was very little use or knowledge of anthracite coal.

The progress since made in civilization and the arts, records events which make the past interesting, and gave to Dr. Smith's busy professional field a wide range, occupying the principal part of the Wyoming Valley, including several adjoining towns.

The construction of the North Branch Canal was largely due to the mining of anthracite coal; and the sad experience of the miner, who was an essential factor, brings to remembrance heart rending scenes of which the doctor was an important witness and benefactor, when but little provision was made by organized charity or hospitals for the care and need of the poor miner. Dr. Smith was a man ever ready for the fulfillment of professional duty, and when necessary, his characteristic charitable nature served the requirements of the needy.

The essential characteristics of American life were found in him, and having an energetic nature, in his early and unpretentious life he improved such educational advantages as the school room afforded.

Dr. Smith's life and labor brings with it recollection the benign influence of beneficence, which gave grace and beauty to that life, in which the exhibition of good will and charity made a good and lasting impression upon those who came within the circle of his professional service.

It will afford a better appreciation of Dr. Smith's influence and labor to remember that seventy-five years ago the people were unaccustomed to a course of life that would be followed by pains and penalties, and necessitate the doctor's frequent attendance. Then the garret was a herbarium, liberally supplied with "roots and herbs," carefully and methodically arranged by the matron of the establishment, whose province it generally was to prepare, apply and administer them. This was a necessity, as then apothecary shops were scarce, and consequently far apart.

It was also customary for physicians to dispense their medicines, carried in that green bag. These medicines were somewhat limited as to number and variety, but in their fre-

quent, necessary and sometimes compulsory use, their unwelcome taste was always held in remembrance.

It is, however, satisfying to know that the longevity of human life is increasing, and that while the average duration of life in the eighteenth century was twenty years, in this century it is thirty-six.

THE ALLEN FAMILY REUNION.

[Daily Record, Sept. 14, 1896.]

The fifth annual reunion of the Allen family and descendants convened at Harvey's Lake picnic grounds Sept. 5. The first reunion convened at the Albert Lewis grounds Sept. 3, 1892, the number present being about ninety, composed of four generations. Five generations back, Otis Allen settled at the base of North Mountain (now Loyalville) with his five sons and three daughters, the sons being George, married Jane Bronson; William, who married Lydia Kunkle; Lewis, who married Eliza Husted; Curtis, who married Mary Ann Holcomb, and Otis, who married Lydia Callendar. Of that family survives Lewis and wife, Lydia, wife of William; Jane, the wife of George, and Otis Allen. Also Sarah Edwards of Pleasant Hill, Lucinda Mullison, who lives in the West, and Mary Ann Allen Chandler, wife of Curtis Allen, in Williamsport. Nearly all of the last named were present on Saturday.

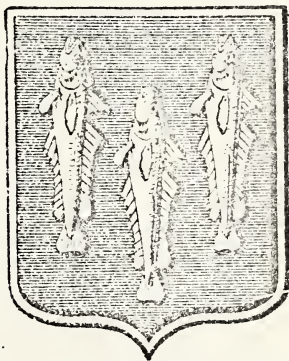
Others of those present at the last reunion were W. G. Allen of Nanticoke and brother Collins, also Ethan, son of Lewis Allen; Corey and family of Pleasant Hill, Ed and family of Loyalville, and Walter and family of Lake, sons of Otis Allen; Benton and family of Meeker, Sterling and family of Hanover, and Charles Allen's family, of Lee Park, Wilkes-Barre, sons of George Allen. Others were Irving Booth and family, Loyalville; John K. Williams and family of Noxen; John Williams, Jr., of Loyalville, L. D. Williams's family, Henry Delong and family and Miss Eva Eipper, Mrs. L. M. Eipper of Lehman and Miss Leora Allen of Pleasant Hill. The elder ones of this race claim to be descendants of the famous Ethan Allen, hero of Ticonderoga, and hold his memory as a cherished souvenir. The next meeting was appointed to be held at the same place the first Saturday in September, 1897.

HAKES FAMILY REUNION.

[Daily Record, Sept. 19, 1896.]

The banquet room of the Vanderbilt was the scene of a very interesting family gathering on Wednesday afternoon, says the Syracuse Standard. About seventy-five members of the Hakes family met at the festive board and discussed an elaborate menu, the chef d'oeuvre of which was baked hake, the fish from which the family derived its name. The genial president of the Hakes family association, Dr. Harry Hakes of Wilkes-Barre, who is an enthusiastic genealogist and who takes a deep interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the family, presided at the banquet. He delivered a happy response to the toast "The Hakes Family in War."

"Of the Hakes boys," he said, "who were able to bear a gun at that time nine



out of every ten of them fought in the revolution. In the war of 1812 the name of Hakes can be found on the muster roll of nearly every company that went to the front. About fifty members of the Hakes family fought in the rebellion and distinguished themselves on several battlefields."

Charles Billings of Billingsbridge, Ont., responded to the toast, "The Hakes Family in Peace." He reviewed the history of the family during the periods between the wars and in closing said that the Hakes family was "peaceable in peace and terrible in war."

Frank P. Hakes of Cortland and Chauncey D. Hakes of Albany made graceful responses to the toast, "The Ladies."

L. D. Blanchard of Norwich, editor of the Earlville Standard, gave a brief history of the formation of the Hakes family association in the toast "Our Annual Reunions."

After the banquet an enjoyable hour was spent in social intercourse and the greeting of new members. In the morning a business session was held, at which president Harry Hakes made the opening address. He reviewed the changes which had taken place in the family during the past year and said that there had been twenty births and sixteen marriages. During the year but four members had died, each of whom had reached 70 years of age. By a unanimous vote it was decided to retain the present officers. It was also decided to create the office of vice president and Chauncey Hakes of Albany was chosen to fill this position. The other officers are: Harry Hakes, Wilkes-Barre, president; Miss Gertrude Hakes-Roath of Worcester, Mass., secretary; Miss Oia Hakes of Cortland, first assistant secretary; Miss Grace Reynolds of Albany, second assistant secretary.

Charles Billings of Billingsbridge, Ont., who is the historian and genealogist of the Billings family, of whom there are 10,000 members, delivered a brief address at the morning session. He said that the Billings family was related to the Hakes

Solomon Hakes, the founder of the Hakes family in this country, came here in 1709. His descendants now number 3,500 and are well represented in the professions, at the bar and in the pulpit.

It was decided to hold the next reunion at Saratoga on the third Wednesday in August. This committee was appointed to complete all arrangements for that reunion: Chauncey D. Hakes of Albany, John G. Hakes of Gilbertsville and Frank D. Hakes of Cortland.

MAILS IN THE EARLY DAYS.

[Daily Record, Sept. 24, 1896.]

"In Washington's first term an effort was made to speed the mails—to move them at the rate of one hundred miles in twenty-four hours," writes Ex-President Harrison in his "This Country of Ours" article in September Ladies' Home Journal. "This would have been a notable advance, for the carriers were then taking nearly thirty hours between Philadelphia and New York. The roads were bad and there were many slow ferries. * * In 1776 there were only twenty-eight postoffices in the Colonies; in 1795 there were four hundred and fifty-three, and in 1895 there were 70,064. The rates of postage when the department was organized under the Constitution were high: For thirty miles, 6 cents for one letter sheet; for sixty miles, eight cents; for one

hundred miles, ten cents, and so increasing with the increased distance to the maximum, twenty-five cents for distances over four hundred and fifty miles. Stamps were not in use in those days, nor was the sender of a letter required to pay the postage in advance. The postage, six cents or twenty-five cents, as the case might be, was written by the postmaster on the letter, and if the sender paid the postage the word 'paid' was added; if he did not the postage was collected of the person to whom the letter was addressed. These rates soon yielded a surplus over the cost of the service spite of the franking privilege which the law gave to Congressmen and the heads of departments. * * The demand of the newspapers and periodicals of every class for cheap postage, seconded by their subscribers, has led to a reduction of rates greatly below the actual cost to the government. In his report for 1892 the Postmaster General, after stating that the present letter rate pays twice the cost of the letter mail, says that the book and newspaper mail is carried at a loss of six cents a pound. In recent years the Postoffice Department has been characterized by a very progressive spirit, and it is now rendering, not a perfect service, but a high class service. No other department has more nearly kept pace with the marvelous development of our country."

The Postmaster General is authorized by and with the consent of the President to conclude postal treaties with foreign countries. Under this power in 1891 the United States became a party to a convention signed by the representatives of over fifty distinct powers, including all the great powers and their dependencies, and very many minor ones, revising the previous conventions, and establishing, under the name of the "Universal Postal Union," a single postal territory for reciprocal exchange of articles of correspondence between their postoffices. A uniform rate of postage which can be prepaid to destination is fixed, and every facility of their mail systems is extended by each country to the mails of all the others. An accounting takes place at stated intervals to adjust the balances. The Universal Postal Union is not only a great agency for the promotion of commerce, but by facilitating the exchanges of thought is a potent agency in the promotion of peace and good will.

FLAG DAYS.

In order to commemorate prominent events in the nation's history the Historical Society will hereafter display its flag on the following days:

- Jan. 17, 1781, Battle of the Cowpens, S. C.
- Feb. 2, 1732, Washington born.
- March 15, 1776, Battle of Guilford.
- April 19, 1775, Battle of Lexington.
- May 10, 1781, Camden; 1776, Ticonderoga.
- May 30, 1870, Memorial Day.
- June 14, 1777, Flag Day.
- June 17, 1775, Battle of Bunker Hill.
- July 3, 1778, Wyoming Massacre.
- July 4, 1776, Independence Day.
- Aug. 6, 1777, Oriskany.
- Aug. 16, 1777, Battle of Bennington.
- Sept. 11, 1776, Battle of Harlem Plains.
- Sept. 16, 1776, Battle of Brandywine.
- Oct. 4, 1777, Battle of Germantown.
- Oct. 17, 1777, Saratoga, Burgoyne's Surrender.
- Oct. 19, 1781, Yorktown, Cornwallis's Surrender.
- Nov. 30, 1782, Independence recognized.
- Dec. 26, 1776, Battle of Trenton.

DEATH OF DR. A. KNAPP.

Dr. Avery Knapp of West Pittston, for many years a prominent citizen of that place, died Oct. 4, 1896, at the home of P. M. Barber, with whom he boarded. The immediate cause of death was a stomach trouble, but for many months he has been ailing with the infirmities of advanced years.

The deceased was descended from a family that crossed the Atlantic in 1630 and lived under Governor Winthrop, settling in Connecticut. His grandfather, Joseph Knapp, and father, Zephaniah Knapp, were in the service in the wars of the Revolution and 1812, respectively.

Dr. Knapp was born near Minooka on the 25th day of May, 1815, his father's family having moved there in 1798 from New England. He was, therefore, in his 82d year. Early in life he graduated from Geneva Medical College and began the practice of medicine at White Haven in 1846. After a residence there of nine years he went to Pittston in 1855 and at once embarked in the drug business, retiring therefrom in 1892, since when he has enjoyed a well earned rest. In 1848 he was married to Frances, daughter of the late Elisha Black-

man, who passed to her rest in March, 1882. Two children were born—Charles, now professor of electrical studies in Girard College, Philadelphia, and Mrs. Charles Babcock, of Canton, Ill. He was a member of the West Pittston M. E. Church and Pittston Lodge, 941, I. O. F.

In botanical, geological and local historical research none were more proficient, he being considered a local authority upon these subjects. Being an extensive reader and close student in his younger days, his range of knowledge was extensive. In charity he was always generous, always mindful.

DEATH OF JOHN RAEDER.

Death has removed another familiar figure from our streets in the person of John Raeder, who has long been a resident of this city, one of our most esteemed business men. He passed peacefully away at 9:25 p. m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, 1896, at his home, 111 West River street, aged 76 years. He had been confined to his bed the principal part of the week, having first contracted a severe cold, but the direct cause of his death was a complication of diseases. The deceased was possessed of a particularly happy disposition, especially during his declining years, and the past summer had been notably enjoyable for him. During the spring he removed from the Washington Hotel, which had served only as a residence for him since retiring from the business some five years ago, to a pleasant home on West River street, where, surrounded by his two daughters, Mrs. F. M. Rust and Mrs. F. M. Heitzman, they entertained friends and relatives. Mr. Raeder was one of the youngest persons in any gathering and it was often remarked that he was possessed of a most happy and contented disposition. Thus in the fullness of years and surrounded by loving children he passed away peacefully. He was known and esteemed by an extensive circle of friends throughout this section. His reputation was untarnished and he never turned a deaf ear to calls for assistance from those who were worthy.

John Raeder was of German origin. He was a son of John Raeder, a native of Heppenheim, Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, who died in this city Jan. 14, 1866. His mother's maiden name was Anna Katrina Sailheimer, of Fromesheimer, Greiss Alzey, Hesse Darmstadt. John, the subject of this sketch, left

Havre in July, 1841, and made the voyage to New York in twenty-eight days, which was considered quick time when an ocean trip usually occupied from 60 to 100 days. He located first at White Haven and worked at Wilkes-Barre and Ransom. In the fall of 1841 he worked on the Lehigh Canal at White Haven under Charles Gilbert. In 1842 he removed to Ransom and in 1846 to this city and took charge of the old Wyoming House for Jacob Bertels.

In 1850 he worked as a mason on the North Branch Canal. In 1857 he removed to Pittston from Gardiner's Ferry and in 1862 he purchased the old Union Hotel property, where he remained until 1873, when he bought the Washington Hotel, which he occupied until recently.

Mr. Raeder was commissioned second lieutenant of the Pittston Yaegers in the 2nd Brigade, 9th Division, Uniformed Militia, Pennsylvania. He was at one time director of the Pittston street railway, a director of the People's Bank, Pittston, a member of the Pittston borough council and a member of the Eagle Hose Co. The children survive: Attorney W. L. Raeder, Mrs. F. M. Rust and Mrs. F. M. Heitzman. His wife was Melinda Wendell, a descendent of Everet Jansen Wendell, one of the early settlers of Albany, N. Y. He was a member of Thistle Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Pittston, and Falling Spring Lodge, 236, Knights of Pythias, Pittston.

FOUND A GIGANTIC BONE.

[Mt. Carmel News, Oct. 2, 1896.]

George Darker, while getting a load of sand on Locust Mountain yesterday, not a hundred yards from the Ashland road, made an interesting discovery. His shovel struck something hard, dry and white, and after three hours' work he succeeded, with the aid of a crowbar, in unearthing a large bone, which probably weighs 400 pounds.

Those who have examined the bone are firm in the belief that it is an animal of prehistoric age, and that it is the remains of a mammoth, one of those huge monsters which wandered about the earth. The remains of the mammoth have been found in different parts of the country, and also in England and Scotland. It is possible that further digging may result in the finding of the whole skeleton of the big animal, of which the bone found yesterday was a part.

QUEER CHANGES IN INDIAN NAMES.

[Dr. W. M. Beauchamp in the *Syracuse Journal*.]

The American Association for the Advancement of Science last year recommended the adoption of Indian names locally and geographically, perhaps with little knowledge of their meaning, and there is an increasing interest in the subject. They are not always satisfying, and often are only names to us, while our own may convey some ideas. Yet I am glad, as many have been retained. Outside of Syracuse, our nineteen towns have but three of these, but half our States have Indian names, while 724 of our principal streams on our Eastern and Southern coast have the same. The Iroquois names especially are favorites, although mostly confined to New York.

It seems a pity that Seneca has superseded the old Indian name of Thi-o-hero, or River of Rushes, applied to one of our first streams. This name of the Senecas is an old one, although not their own, first appearing on the Dutch maps of 1614-16, and having been given them by the Algonquin tribes near the coast. These spoke a radically different language. In their tongue Sinne meant to eat, and the form is still found in the Ojibwa, as in *We-sin-ne*, we eat. It was variously spelled by the Dutch, the most common form being *Sinneke*, or *Sinneque*, and the old spelling hardly suggests to the eye the Latin form so easily derived from it by the ear. Mr. Hale says that *Sinako* means stone snakes in the Delaware, and that Mr. Squier was told that, as applied to this nation, their enemies, it meant mountain snakes. This does not seem as well supported as the other, and the more reasonable interpretation is thought to be the devourers or eaters of men, actually or figuratively. All the early Iroquois had a terrible reputation in this way. Literally they were devourers of their enemies.

The early Dutch and English traders and colonists took the names of the interior tribes from the Algonquins, whom they first met along the coast. Thus the Mohawks were called by names which they themselves could not pronounce, there being no M or other labial sound in the Iroquois dialects. The Dutch thus termed them *Maguas*, or *Bears*, and this was gradually modified into *Mohawks*, also expressive of man-

eaters. Roger Williams says that the "*Mauguauogs*, or man-eaters, that live two or three hundred miles west from us, make a delicious monstrous dish of the heads and brains of their enemies." This reputation added to the fears inspired by these brave warriors, they accepted the title of *Bears* in a degree, and to make it more emphatic sometimes called a Mohawk by a name expressive of the more terrible she-bear:

By these two early Algonquin names, different in sound, but similar in meaning, the Dutch and English long designated all the Iroquois, the *Maguas*, or *Mohawks*, being one part, and the *Sinnekes* comprising all the rest. The French, brought into closer relations, distinguished each of the Five Nations by its own proper name in 1635, and Corlaer, among the Dutch, obscurely did this in his journal of the same year, but otherwise the French were far in advance of all in this respect.

Much might be said about our Indian names. In an account of over 600 Onondagas I have the Indian names of nearly 500. Rev. Albert Cusick has given me 900 common words in addition to the hundreds I have in other ways. My list of those persons among the rest of the Six Nations, whose Indian names are preserved, must be upward of 1,500, while the local Indian names of the State are over 1,200 in number. In this county about seventy are extant.

Generally an Iroquois word is accented on the next to the last syllable, but there are a few exceptions. We use the word *Skaneateles*, accenting the antepenult, but this is the Mohawk form, the Onondagas not using the "l," which the Mohawks and Oneidas largely employed. With nearly the same spelling, the Oneidas and Tuscaroras emphasize the next to the last syllable. The Senecas, Cayugas, and Onondagas may be said to do the same, by obscurely uniting the last two, as in the Onondaga word "*Skaneaties*," the long lake. On our maps of the Seneca country this became "*Skaneatice*," as applied to a lake, "*Canadice*," for the town. In the Onondaga word "*A-keeso-tah*," applied to our grandfathers of the continuous voices, the Thunders, the last syllable is accented, and there are a few other exceptional examples. Thus in "*Ska-none-chie-ka*," to the place of peace, equivalent to the place of souls, the second syllable has the accent. "*Ohn-kwa-nes-hen-tuk-kwah*," our ancestors, has the third syllable accented.

"A-nek," the hickory, and "Ske-non-to," the deer, are accented on the last, but such instances are rare.

The letter R is almost obsolete among the Onondagas, while L takes its place among the Oneidas. A large number of our local names have Mohawk or Oneida forms, partly because these nations were first accessible to the English and Dutch as interpreters and partly because the Mohawk closely resembles the Huron, with which the early Jesuit missionaries were familiar. They readily and confidentially conversed with the numerous Huron captives in the Iroquois villages, many of whom were their old friends, and learned the names of places from them.

In forming descriptive words the adjective is variously used. Kanata is a village or town; simply add gowa or gona, meaning large, and we have the large village or town. The form changes in Kanatenah, "she leads the town," and in other combinations this derivative word appears among the women's names. Ka-na-tah-no-wen is the name of one, and Ka-na-tah-koch-kah-use—"tearing down the town" is that of another. In the last, the syllable next to the last is commonly omitted.

In the Huron, lake is Ontare; in Mohawk Ganiatore; by adding or changing to Io, we have Ontario, the great or beautiful lake. Io is now commonly used for beautiful, but its primitive meaning was great, as in Onodia, the great mountain. The gradual change may be traced in the Ohio.

Most of our local Indian names are of a trivial and unpoetic character. For our use the personal names are better. Here is a little boy's name, Hi-yeah-he. Sa-ha-ahga—a spreading path—would fit nicely in some situations. O-so-kne-te-yu—a beautiful cedar swamp—would suit others. A fishing lodge, with its big stories, might take the name of O-chun-te—a whole fish. I fancy the ladies will like this: Twen-na-wen-ach—the echo of a voice over the hills—but whether any lovelorn swain will call his cottage So-go-yah-tis-soks—he is anxious for her—may be doubted. For a camp some of these personal names might be used, as So-dean-tonk—sitting down again. Te-hat-kah-tous—looking both ways (or all around)—would suit a cottage on a point, and the official name of Captain George and others, No-we-ya-te—gone out of sight—might apply to one more retired. I forbear giving more examples.

Allow me to make some corrections. Kai-yahn-koo does not belong to the Green Lake near Jamesville, as stated by Clark and others, but to the one nearest Kirkville, and means a resting place, with the idea of smoking while resting. The pond west of Jamesville is Tue-yah-das-soo—hemlock knots in the water. A misprint in "Onondaga's Centennial" makes Seneca River Miohero, when it should be Thi-o-he-ro—the river of rushes. I followed Clark in speaking of Quiehook as an Indian village at Oswego Falls, mentioned in the Relation of 1655. The name really belongs to Chittenango Creek, and was first mentioned in 1700. Similarly, Kachna-waacharege, said to have been mentioned in the same relation as a fishing place near Cross Lake, first appears on Chittenango Creek in 1700. This statement includes another erroneous date and name. The name of Cross Lake is Teu-nen-to—at the cedars. Clark made this to mean the ha, but his name is far from signifying the wise man. Charlevoix's map is the oldest on which this lake is named, and he called it L. Tioclon. On the same map Skancateles appears at Lac Seanaiiores, not Scaneteres, as in Clark, which is but a slight error. Another more serious is in saying that Father le Mercier located at Onieda village near Brewerton, calling it Ganayhsaragey. This was the Tuscorora town of Canaseraga of 100 years later. Nor was Kanunda located near Brewerton, but at the head of Onondaga Lake.

THE PAXTON INCIDENT.

St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 3, 1896.

Mr. Editor: I have long felt that there is an important event in Luzerne history that needs to be honestly, fairly and correctly written up, and I was delighted to receive a letter from Dr. William H. Egle containing the following statement: "I have had in contemplation for a number of years the preparation of a little volume on the 'Paxton boys' affair. But it seems that I do not get much time for my own special work. I hope, however, before long to do just exactly what you have suggested, having all the data in my possession."

People who do not take the pains and trouble to inquire into the true facts in regard to this affair are misled and deceived by false statements. My righteous indignation was aroused to the highest pitch by reading the two

chapters relating to Pennsylvania colonies in Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge's recent book on American colonies. Most of these statements are deliberate lies. No Pennsylvanian will, for one moment, admit the correctness of his statements.

It is not my purpose to review this portion of Mr. Lodge's book, but I want to do my duty in trying to defend the fair fame and memory of our brave and noble ancestors against such false and unjust accusations. Fine writing does not make history, although it comes from the pen of such a prominent and able writer as Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge.

Some of his statements relating to the "Paxton boys" could be corrected by having Dr. Egle, State librarian, publish his contemplated work on this affair.

I sincerely hope everyone who is interested in perpetuating the early history, specially relating to Hanover Township, will assist and encourage him in his noble efforts.

To have this record made up by such an able and reliable historian is well worthy of considerable effort from us.

Yours truly,

John Espy.

DR. PARKE BEFORE THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

[Daily Record, Oct. 10, 1896.]

The quarterly meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society was held at the society's rooms Friday evening, the president, Hon. Stanley Woodward, occupying the chair. The attendance was quite large. The secretary, Rev. Horace E. Hayden, reported a total of 573 additions to the library and cabinet, of which about 500 were for the library. He also reported that the Harrison Wright fund now amounts to \$700, leaving only \$300 more to be subscribed. Murray E. Poole of Ithaca, N. Y.; Jacob Roberts, Jr., and Dorrance Reynolds were elected members of the society.

The paper of the evening was by Rev. Dr. N. G. Parke of Pittston, who has been preaching in Wyoming Valley upwards of fifty years. His subject was "Wilkes-Barre's old church bell," and a synopsis is herewith appended, though it presents only a part of the many interesting things narrated:

WILKES-BARRE'S OLD CHURCH BELL.

The bell of which I have been asked to write, that was heard for many years

in Wyoming Valley and the surrounding country from the tower of the "Old Ship Zion," is now in the possession of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, after more than half a century of faithful service and a somewhat migratory experience.

WHEN BROUGHT HERE.

The exact date of its purchase in Philadelphia? Who bought it? And how it was conveyed here, over the mountains or by water, are matters we do not know. The probabilities are that the bell must have been brought to Wilkes-Barre shortly after it was cast. The casting was in August, 1811, and sometime in 1812, shortly after the building of the church was completed, the bell entered on its work of "sounding and resounding" to call the people to the sanctuary. This date corresponds with that given by Pearce in his *Annals of Luzerne County*. He says that the church was completed in 1812, and that the ringing of the "curfew bell" commenced the same year, probably immediately after the hanging of the bell.

The church that stood on the Public Square, where the Wilkes-Barre court house now stands, was the first church erected in Wilkes-Barre, and the bell that hung in the tower of that church and for almost half a century called the people to worship was the first bell that was heard within the bounds of what is now the counties of Luzerne, Wyoming, Lackawanna and Susquehanna.

THE CONGREGATIONS IT SERVED.

As the church on the Square was a union church, all Christian denominations represented in the town used it for worship. The venerable Nathaniel Rutter, who came to reside in Wilkes-Barre in 1825, and at that time worshipped with the Episcopalians, says: "When I came here there were three congregations worshipping in the old church, which was the only church in the town, viz., the Presbyterians or Congregationalists, the Methodists and the Episcopalians, and the same bell served them all."

CURFEW BELL.

Besides this service for these congregations, it was the curfew bell for the town. Its voice was heard every evening at 9 o'clock, virtually saying to young men and maidens who were out, that it was time they were at home. Young men who courted their wives in Wilkes-Barre fifty or sixty years ago, when the Puritan spirit prevailed to a

greater extent than it does now, were not always pleased with this signal "to leave," after which the window shutters were closed. After ringing at 9 o'clock every night it gave the day of the month. Besides this, it tolled at every funeral and gave the age of the person who was being laid to rest.

OLD MICHAEL.

The sexton of the church whose duty and privilege it was to give direction to the service of the bell for some thirty years, was known as "Old Michael." He was a native of Geneva, Switzerland, and came to Wilkes-Barre in 1802. Michael had his idiosyncracies, but he was marvelously faithful in all his work; and of no part of his work was he more faithful than in ringing the bell, of which he was official guardian, and its voice was seldom heard except at his bidding. No lighthouse keeper on our Atlantic coast is more watchful of his lamp than Michael was of this old bell, now in the custody of this Historical Society.

THE PRESBYTERIANS MOVE.

The Presbyterians of Wilkes-Barre left the church on the Square and built for themselves a house of worship on Franklin street during the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Murray, between 1829 and 1833. The new church cost them their pastor. The congregation of Elizabeth, N. J., to which Mr. Murray was sent to solicit funds to build the new church was pleased with the young preacher and called him and he accepted the call. Going into the new house did not relieve the old bell from service for the Presbyterians. It continued to be the only church bell in Wilkes-Barre, so far as we know, until 1851, when the Presbyterian congregation moved into the house now used and owned by the Osterhout Library. The Methodists, about this time, completed a new brick church on Franklin street, the predecessor of the elegant church in which they now worship. The Episcopalians had some years previously, in 1822, withdrawn from the old church on the square and erected a small frame house on Franklin street, where their commodious and well appointed sanctuary now stands.

As a result of these progressive movements on the part of the churches, the

mission of the "Old Ship Zion" and its bell, so far as Wilkes-Barre was concerned, was at an end, and in 1857 they were sold. The Presbyterians of Pittston, who had just completed a new house of worship and were feeling the hard times of 1857 and 1858, bought for their new sanctuary this damaged bell. There it did good service until after the sanctuary in which the Presbyterians now worship on Franklin street was completed. Then it came back to Wilkes-Barre. The Osterhout Library Association purchased of the Presbyterians their church building. They did not purchase the bell that hung in the tower, but they (the Presbyterians) did not propose to hang it in the tower of their new church, and it was for sale.

RETURN TO WILKES-BARRE.

It then occurred to the pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Pittston, the speaker of the evening, that the way was now open to return the old bell to the home of its youth. He communicated with Judge Dana, at that time president of this society, and proposed to present the bell to the society. The result you know. The Wilkes-Barre bell, taken from the Osterhout Library building, which the building committee of the Presbyterian Church generously offered to sell for less than half its value, was purchased and placed in the tower of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittston, where it is now doing service, and the bell of the "Old Ship Zion" came back to Wilkes-Barre.

ENVIRONED BY SENTIMENT.

To those who will visit these historical rooms in days to come, descendants of the Wyoming pioneers whom we delight to honor, this bell will have nothing to say orally any more than the Sphinx that looks out over the Valley of the Nile, but it will be a reminder of the fact that their fathers, whatever others may have thought, had faith in God and in the Son of God, to whose service it was dedicated before it was born and to whose service it was most faithfully given.

The doctor was tendered a unanimous vote of thanks for the excellent paper, after which the meeting adjourned and the members and guests went upstairs to look at the historic bell, around which cluster so many memories of the early days of Wilkes-Barre.

LORD CORNWALLIS.

The Daughters of the American Revolution observed the surrender at Yorktown with an interesting celebration Monday, Oct. 19, 1896, in the Historical Society building.

The hall was elaborately decorated with American flags in various designs. The globes of the electric lights were red, white and blue. On the flag covered table of the chairman was a vase of chrysanthemums and on the mantel and elsewhere were potted palms. In front of the audience hung a large map of the Atlantic States from New York City to Charleston, S. C., showing the operations of Cornwallis, particularly his fatal march from Charleston to Yorktown, Va. An orchestra was present.

The election of officers resulted thus: Regent—Mrs. Katharine McCartney.

Vice regent—Mrs. Sarah Butler Woodward.

Recording secretary—Miss Ella Munroe Bowman.

Corresponding secretary—Miss Mary Covell Tubbs.

Treasurer—Mrs. Marie Orton Beaumont.

Registrar—Miss Mary A. Sharpe.

Historian—Mrs. Marie Fuller Rice.

Board of management—Mrs. Stella Dorrance Reynolds, Mrs. Grace Fuller Reynolds, Mrs. Elizabeth Reynolds Ricketts, Mrs. Mary Richardson Hand, Mrs. Annie Dorrance Reynolds, Miss Stella Wadhams, Mrs. Augusta Dorrance Farnham, Mrs. Sterling Loop, Miss Elizabeth Rockwell, Mrs. Clorinda Shoemaker Stearns, Mrs. Frederick Corss, Miss Mary Slosson, Miss Anna Phelps, Miss Mary Harvey.

The address was by Charlemagne Tower, LL. D., of Philadelphia, his subject being "Lord Cornwallis," whose surrender of the British army at Yorktown is familiar to every American, old and young. Dr. Tower is an agreeable reader and his address was a most satisfactory one in every way. Not only did he give a graphic pen picture of the distinguished English officer, but the narrative was so ingeniously woven that along with the story of his life went a comprehensive yet concise history of the Revolutionary struggle that few people have an opportunity of listening to. His hearers felt that their knowledge of that great contest had been wonderfully brushed up, while many felt that they had never before

had quite so satisfactory a birdseye view of the war for American independence.

Dr. Tower is a warm admirer of Cornwallis, yet he does not spare criticism where it is deserved—and it was deserved on several occasions. Cornwallis was only 37 when the war broke out, he having been born in 1738. He was educated for the army, he having chosen a military career when only 17 years old. At the outbreak of the war he was experienced in military life, having served more than a dozen years in the army. In 1762 he had succeeded to the earldom and estates of his father, he being the oldest of six children. He had early been chosen to a seat in Parliament (1769) and two years later he took his place in the House of Lords. In public life he was distinguished by inflexible integrity. He was opposed to the policy of England of taxing the colonies and did not favor a war against America, though after war was declared, when ordered to take command of a division he obeyed orders and fought to win. His sympathies with the colonies had been so forcible as to attract attention, but he won the esteem of all his critics by his open and manly course. He accompanied his troops to America, the voyage to North Carolina occupying eighty-two days. He plunged into the activity of the field and so chafed under the sluggish movements of Lord Howe in the North, several strategic movements having been lost, that in December, 1776, he sought to be recalled to England. But circumstances compelled him to remain in active service. However, he did return to England in 1778 and took his seat in the House of Lords, evidently not intending to return. He remained four months, during which time the Lords were engaged in hot discussions as to the American policy. He was then sent back to the colonies, bearing a dormant commission, appointing him to the command of the British forces in the event of the death of Gen. Clinton. This fact was intended to be kept secret, but Gen. Clinton learned of it and it aroused in him a feeling of jealousy toward Cornwallis that not only lasted during the war, but which broke out afterwards in published malignant criticism. When Cornwallis found that Sir Henry Clinton was determined to evacuate Philadelphia, a measure which he did not approve, the relations became even more strained and Cornwallis asked the king to recall him, but

the request was refused on the ground that the public service required his presence with the army. The profligacy of the British army, luxuriating in Philadelphia amid the silly scenes of the Meschianza, while Washington's troops were freezing at Valley Forge, so near at hand that they could easily have been annihilated by the superior British force, completely disgusted him. The degeneracy of the troops, their drunkenness, their gambling, their idleness—all these stirred him to the depths and he resolved to return to England. The serious illness of his wife furnished the opportunity and he hastened home, only to find that his wife was dying of grief at his prolonged absence. She lived only a few weeks and then he returned to America. Clinton had hoped he was rid of Cornwallis and he was so chagrined at his return that he asked that himself be relieved of his command; though the request was refused. The pill had, however, been made somewhat less bitter for Clinton to swallow, Cornwallis's dormant commission having been canceled by the king, Cornwallis being placed second in command. As Clinton had chafed under the fact that Cornwallis had been closer to the court than he, he now felt less resentful and as far as the official correspondence indicates, their relations were not openly unfriendly.

The government now changed its policy in the conduct of the war. Heretofore it had attempted to weaken the colonies in the North by shutting them off from one another. For this purpose the British had endeavored to hold the Hudson River and make this the dividing line. The policy had been such a failure that at the end of three years' hostilities the British had gained substantially nothing.

The new policy was to cut off the South from the North. To leave a force at New York just large enough to maintain possession and then to open hostilities in Virginia and the Carolinas. It was believed that there were enough Tories in these colonies to materially strengthen the British arms and to furnish the latter with a strong base of supplies. In this they were mistaken. The Southern colonies contained more patriots than Tories and the hope that all the colonies south of the Chesapeake would return to Great Britain was doomed to disappointment.

An expedition was sent in 1780 to occupy the Carolinas, and Charleston fell into their hands. Sir Henry Clinton put Cornwallis in command, instructing him to pursue such campaign as his judgment indicated, but to hold Charleston at all hazards. Whether Cornwallis obeyed orders or not furnished material for acrimonious controversy for many years after the war. Leaving a garrison at Charleston he marched northward. At first he was victorious. He soon encountered Gen. Greene and defeated him, but he was not able to maintain the advantage. He met with other reverses after this, and instead of falling back on his base of supplies at Charleston he led his army across to the coast, where he hoped to be reinforced, by sea, though in this he was disappointed. In the meantime he had accomplished nothing and had aroused the opposition of the people to the British arms.

Washington was quick to see the opportunity. France in the hour of our greatest need had sent ships and troops and money, and he determined to mass his army in Virginia and prevent Cornwallis from escaping. Washington took chances and left the entire North exposed to Clinton, but the latter was too busy looking out for the king's army under Cornwallis to give any attention to the defenseless North. He hastened to relieve Cornwallis. But he was too late. Cornwallis was caught in a trap from which he could not escape. Yorktown was besieged. The cause was hopeless, and while Sir Henry Clinton's fleet was hastening down the coast, all too slowly, Cornwallis was compelled to surrender and America was lost to England.

Cornwallis was not disgraced by this calamity. On the contrary he afterwards attained to the highest honors, both in military and civil life. He died in India in 1805, aged 67, he being governor general.

The foregoing rapidly drawn picture of the lecture gives but a feeble idea of what was a fine study of one of the picturesque figures of the Revolutionary War.

After the lecture a rising vote of thanks was given Dr. Tower. He is the guest of Col. and Mrs. G. Murray Reynolds.

LIVED HERE 70 YEARS AGO.

One of the oldest settlers of this region passed away at his home in West Pittston, Friday, Oct. 9, 1896, in the person of Bradley Downing, aged 72 years. Mr. Downing was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1824 and removed to Pittston in 1850 and became foreman in the building of the Pennsylvania R. R.'s gravity road. Then he took a position as foreman of the Pennsylvania R. R.'s water lines. Deceased is survived by his wife and the following children: Edward, of Kansas; Mrs. C. F. Watrous, Jr., of West Pittston; Norman W., of Trenton, N. J.; James L., of Newark, N. J., and John T. Mr. Downing was a member of the M. E. Church, of the Odd Fellows and the Royal Arcanum.

PENN HEIR SUES.

[Daily Record, Oct. 24, 1896.]

Papers in a suit to recover \$200 damages were filed yesterday by George K. Powell, attorney for William Dugald Stuart, against John Hall. The plaintiff, who claims to be a direct heir of William Penn, states that he is owner in fee simple of certain land in Plymouth Township, which is part of the Manor of Sunbury. On or about Jan. 1, 1894, he alleges the defendant unlawfully entered upon the land and quarried and removed 1,000 loads of building and paving stones, which is valued at 20 cents per load, or \$200.

MRS. E. H. CHASE'S DEATH.

Mrs. Edward H. Chase died at her home on South River street on Saturday morning, Oct. 24, 1896, her demise being sudden and unexpected, though Mrs. Chase had not been in good health for some months.

Mrs. Chase was a devoted wife and mother and a good neighbor. She was a life long member of the First Presbyterian Church and was always ready to do her part in any work of benevolence or charity that came in her way. Home was her sphere and she made her home so bright and attractive that the members of her household counted it the best place of all. Mrs. Chase was a charming entertainer, as all who have ever partaken of her hospitality can testify. In her death the community sustains a genuine loss.

Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor Chase was born in Wilkes-Barre sixty-three years ago, where now stands the Harvey block on Franklin street, and spent her entire life here. Her father was Edmund Taylor, the veteran saddler of this city, who in 1830 was appointed an associate judge of Luzerne County and died in 1881 at the age of 77. Mrs. Chase is survived by two brothers—Thomas Taylor of this city, Edmund Taylor of New York, and a sister, Mrs. Samuel White, who resides at Lawrence, Mass. The late John Taylor, general traffic manager of the Lehigh Valley R. R. Co., was her brother. Mrs. Chase is survived by her husband, Edward H. Chase, Esq., and by two sons, Harold T. Chase, editor of the Topeka (Kas.) Capital-Commonwealth, and Samuel C. Chase, and two daughters, Ethel H. and Frances B.

On her mother's side Mrs. Chase came from pioneer stock. She was a granddaughter of Elnathan Wilson, a revolutionary soldier, who came from New London, Conn., to Wyoming Valley at an early day. He located in Forty Fort and was married there in 1798 by Rev. Anning Owen, to Betsey Baker, the daughter of a Connecticut pioneer. Betsey Baker's mother was a sister of the celebrated American traveler, John Ledyard, who was with Capt. Cook when the latter was killed by the Sandwich Island savage. Elnathan Wilson's hospital home in Kingston was a favorite resort for the itinerant Methodist preachers. An interesting account of the pioneer experiences of the Wilson and Baker families can be found in the Historical Record, vol. 4, page 109.

DEATH OF POLLY CAREY.

The death of Polly Carey occurred on Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1896, at 1 a. m. at her home in Ashley, after a severe illness of one month in the 82d year, 9th month and 14th day of her age. Death was a welcome visitor.

Mrs. Carey was one of the original settlers of that vicinity. She comes from an old Bennett ancestry, she being a sister of George Washington Bennett. She was the widow of the late John S. Carey, and is survived by three sons—Hiram, Stuart and Nathan, and one daughter, Susan, of Chicago. She has always been industrious and she and her husband leave a valuable tract of land. The estate is worth \$35,000.

FIRST VISIT IN SIXTY YEARS.

[Daily Record, Oct. 29, 1896.]

William C. Miles of Springville, Susquehanna County, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Hamlin of Carey avenue. Mr. Miles, who is now 83 years old, used to raft lumber down the Susquehanna something over sixty years ago, and, as this is his first visit to Wilkes-Barre since that time, he is much impressed by the change in the appearance of this city since his last visit.

RECORDS ARE SOMETIMES UNCERTAIN.

Mrs. W. H. McCartney had this pleasant mention in the New York Times of Oct. 24, 1896. "The date of birth is the one important date in every life which no one can verify from recollection. Records, even family records, are very uncertain things, genealogists say, so there seems to be no really good reason why a person can not set his or her age at a figure which seems to him or her to be reasonable. There is always a possibility that there may have been a mistake in dates. 'Why, I have known church and town records to vary twelve years as to a birth,' says Mrs. William H. McCartney, who has made the subject a special study. Mrs. McCartney is the widow of Gen. McCartney. She is the founder and regent of the chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., her home, but she is for the present giving her service as assistant librarian to the Genealogical Society in its new quarters, 226 West Fifty-eighth street. Since her husband's death Mrs. McCartney has been a professional genealogist. She was brought up on family genealogy as a child, took a graduate course in hunting up the family records of the members of her chapter in Wilkes-Barre, and any statement she may make on the subject is authoritative. 'It is the most difficult thing in the world to get accurate dates,' she says. 'Why, even the family Bibles don't tell the truth. The records in them are often put down from memory that is not always to be relied upon. I depend more upon the town and church records than anything else, and, as I said, they vary. You can't tell much by gravestones. They are often incorrect. Why, even my own greatgrandfather is made on his stone to die four years later than he did: 1836 was engraved on the stone instead of 1832, and the error, which was the stone-

cutter's, could not be rectified. You know a person has died when you see a gravestone, and that is about all.' With all these uncertainties, it would seem that a person might only be as old as he pleases. All the records may be wrong and only a genealogist would go to work to verify them."

THE KEELER ESTATE.

At Keelersburg, Northmoreland Township, Wyoming County, along the Susquehanna River, is located the estate, originally of Asa Keeler. Mr. Keeler was born in Connecticut and when about 12 years of age was bound out and learned the saddler's trade. After learning to make his first saddle he ran away and took up life for himself. He landed at Wilkes-Barre and helped to cut down trees that stood where the court house now stands at that place. Later he bought 200 acres of land at what now is L. & B. Junction, at Pittston, and which is underlaid with coal. The ground was too poor to raise white beans, so he gave it up and went to Great Bend, where he married. He put his wife and his little belongings in a canoe and set forth down the Susquehanna River to find him a home. As they neared the point on the river where Keelersburg now is he was struck with it, as there was a bay, a running stream and a valley from the hills beyond, which was bound to become a business point. He landed there and in time came to own all the land in that immediate region. It was there he built what came to be known as one of the best stage taverns along the river and he erected saw mills, grist mills, a store and a postoffice, of which he was made postmaster in 1806 and continued as such up to his death in 1867, when he was the oldest postmaster in commission in the United States. Succeeding him as postmaster came his son Heister, who died twenty years after, in 1887, and he was succeeded by his wife, who is now succeeded by H. Harrison Keeler. That postoffice has been in the family for the past ninety years and it is doubtful if there is such a record in the Union to-day like this. The property there has increased in value as years have gone on. The old man Asa raised a large family of children and distributed much property during his time. The old manor house, store, postoffice, etc., passed to Heister Keeler, who made disposition of his per-

sonal property by will, and the real estate, now that Mrs. Heister Keeler is dead, comes on to be divided. The heirs are ex-county superintendent Asa S. Keeler, Mrs. Benjamin Thompson of Luzerne, Mrs. Dr. E. F. Avery, H. Harrison Keeler and Mrs. Henry Luch-singer of West Pittston.—Scranton Republican.

AN OLD LAND CONTRACT.

The following article from the Bath (N. Y.) Plain-Dealer gives an interesting account of where a good portion of the business on the Susquehanna River came from in the early days, when railroads had not yet penetrated the interior:

* * *

When Col. Williamsen took charge of the great land purchase of William Pulteney and others in Western New York, in 1792, sales were made of tracts of land to purchasers, and deeds were given by the colonel. In case they were unable to pay down the purchase price they gave a mortgage on the land, payable in the future, as security for the money unpaid.

It was found that this mode was not altogether satisfactory, so instead of a deed and mortgage, a contract of purchase was resorted to and found to be more convenient. We have before us one of these contracts, executed on the 1st day of January, 1826, made between David Cathcart, commonly called Lord Alloway and Masterton, then trustee under the will of Sir John Lowther Johnson, the heir of Henrietta Laura Pulteney, by their attorney and agent, Dugald Cameron and Benjamin Wygant by which the first parties sell a parcel of land in the town of Urbana, in Steuben County, containing 114 acres of land, at the price of \$3 per acre, payable in eight equal annual installments after the 1st day of January, 1829, with annual interest. It does not appear that any money was paid down. The purchaser was to enter upon the land and clear and fence five acres each year. He was not permitted to assign his contract without the consent of the agent and cut any more timber than was necessary for fire wood and improvements. Dugald Cameron was to warrant the title. This clause was a portion of the contract:

"It is agreed that clean, merchantable winter wheat, delivered at the head of Crooked Lake as the above respective

payments become due, will be accepted in payment at \$1 per bushel."

There was a blank space to insert the place of delivery. This wheat became a legal tender for the payment of the Pulteney lands in Steuben County and consequently virtually fixed the price of wheat at \$1 per bushel. At that time there was little money in the country.

There were no banks, nor any money to loan. Settlers who brought money with them usually paid it to the land office for their land, and it was sent to the English proprietors. The chief staples were wheat and lumber. There were no means of transportation except by the Susquehanna River to Baltimore, the only accessible market, and that was only available during the spring freshets. The farmers generally would not raise to exceed 400 or 500 bushels besides what was necessary for family use. The capacity of the arks in which the grain was transported was from 1,200 to 1,500 bushels. The ordinary producer was, therefore, not able to market it for himself; he must needs dispose of it to one in the produce business. The merchants would take it in exchange for goods, but would pay no money. The land office, in the course of the winter, would receive at their warehouses in different parts of the country, a large quantity, which would be shipped to Baltimore in the spring.

DEATH OF MRS. POLLY RICE.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1896, at 4 p. m., occurred the death of Mrs. Polly Rice, mother of the late Hon. Hubbard Payne, at her home in Kingston, at the advanced age of 86 years. Mrs. Rice, previous to her marriage was Miss Polly Pierce, and was born in New York State on June 22, 1810. She was married to Bester Payne on Dec. 4, 1834, and removed to Kingston in 1836. This marriage was blessed with three children, two of whom died in infancy. The third was Hon. Hubbard Bester Payne, who died in September, 1892, and was one of the foremost lawyers at the Luzerne Bar and one of the most distinguished citizens of the valley at the time of his death. Bester Payne died on April 3, 1866. Mrs. Payne was married again on Dec. 10, 1867, to Isaac Rice, and he died on March 26, 1884. The family resided at the old Payne homestead near the D. L. & W. R. R. for a number of years. Deceased was one of the best known residents of the West Side, and for over half a century she had enjoyed the good

will and esteem of the people of Kingston. She was a member of the Presbyterian Church all her life, and until enfeebled by age took an active part in church work. She is survived by three grandchildren, Louise S. Payne of Philadelphia, Hubbard Barker Payne, a member of the Luzerne County Bar, and Paul D. Payne, a student at Penn Charter, Philadelphia. She has also one brother, Daniel Pierce of Sycamore, Ill.

SOUTH CAROLINA NOTE 119 YEARS OLD.

L. C. Darté has recently come into possession, through a relative, of one of the finest specimens of a South Carolina colonial note in existence. This note, or bill, is for £1.12.6, and was issued at Charles-Town, South Carolina, in 1777, "according to an act of General Assembly passed at Charles-Town the 23d day of December, 1776." Printed thereon are the words: "Death to counterfeit." It has the pen written signatures of "John Dart" and "J. Wakefield" thereon, and for a bill or note issued 119 years ago is in fine condition. The fact that it is signed by an illustrious ancestor of Mr. Darté renders it unusually valuable and interesting, and it is one of his most highly prized possessions.

ANCESTORS IN WYOMING MASSACRE.

[Daily Record, Nov. 6, 1896.]

The Wyalusing correspondent of the Record sends the following: Mrs. Mary Taylor Ingham died at her home in Sugar Run on Wednesday afternoon, after an illness of seven months, her ailment being paralysis. The deceased was born in Moravia, N. Y., being a daughter of the late Rev. George Taylor, a Presbyterian minister, whose ancestors were in the memorable Wyoming massacre. About half a century ago she married J. W. Ingham and settled at Sugar Run, where she passed the remainder of her life, it having been one of activity, usefulness and a full exemplification of the Christian grace. She is survived by an only son, George T. Ingham, a druggist in this place, and her aged husband, a gentleman well known in these parts, he being a descendant of Revolutionary stock, and his family among the earliest settlers of Wyalusing.

Though engaged in farming and milling, Mr. Ingham is a writer of more than local fame, being a contributor to the metropolitan press, particularly the New York Tribune.

EARLY METHODISM IN WILKES-BARRE.

[Daily Record, Nov. 9, 1896.]

Yesterday morning's sermon at the Franklin Street M. E. Church was made pleasant by the appearance of a pastor who occupied the pulpit many years ago. Notwithstanding the downfall of rain the church was well filled. The sermon was by Rev. Dr. Pearne of Cincinnati, who forty-eight years ago was pastor of the church. He is a man of strong physique and is still robust and in good health. His beard is snow white, but the hair on his head is still dark.

The pastor, Rev. Dr. W. H. Pearce, introduced Rev. Dr. Pearne, after which he briefly made a statement of his mission, that of raising funds for the education of the poor black and white population of the South. He was not there to ask just then for a collection, but would make the statement and would leave the matter to the congregation for future consideration.

He stated that only a few of those who formed this congregation nearly a half century ago were present. Most of them had left it to join the greater congregation above. His text was a general one and his sermon was a general gospel discourse, full of religious fervor. The sermon was one of profit to all who heard it. Many of the members of the congregation remained to speak with the veteran pastor.

The veteran pastor, Rev. Dr. Thomas Pearne, of Cincinnati, O., who addressed the children of the First M. E. Sunday school on Sunday afternoon, gave an entertaining talk of the early history of Methodism in Wilkes-Barre. Rev. Dr. Pearne is 77 years of age, but does not look to be over three score. He spoke of his parterate here forty-eight years ago. His first charge in this city was in the Old Ship Zion, which stood on Public Square and during his parterate the First M. E. Church that stood on the site of the present church was erected in 1849. When the workmen were excavating the cellar he remembered a little boy carrying there his

little red wheelbarrow to help in the work of taking away the earth. That boy was George S. Bennett, the present superintendent of the Sunday school, who was then 3 years of age.

The present handsome edifice was erected thirteen years ago during the pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. J. O. Woodruff. The venerable Bishop Foster preached the dedication sermon.

WILKES-BARRE POSTMASTERS.

[Daily Record, Nov. 9, 1896.]

In view of the fact that the postoffice is to be removed it will be interesting to recall the list of postmasters and to tell where those various officials have held forth. From an article published by Stewart Pearce in 1870, in a sheet called the Postoffice Advertiser, of which Vol. 1, No. 1, is in possession of the Record, the following facts, somewhat modified as to the names of places, are taken. The only postmaster prior to 1870 now living is Edward H. Chase. It may be mentioned that Mr. Pearce never issued a second number of the Advertiser.

Lord Butler, appointed 1794, kept the postoffice on the site of the present residence of Judge Stanley Woodward, River street, corner Northampton.

John Hollenback, appointed in 1802—Thomas Dyer, deputy—kept the office in the latter's residence, Main street.

Ezekiel Hyde, appointed in 1805, kept the office on the corner of Market and Franklin streets, diagonally across from the Wyoming Bank.

Jonathan Hancock, appointed in 1805, kept the office on the site of the present Bennett building.

Jacob Cist, appointed in 1808, kept the office for several years in M. Hollenback's store, Main street, below Northampton, and afterwards removed to a building on the site of the residence of A. H. McClintock, Esq., River street.

A. Beaumont, appointed in 1826, kept the office in the old fire-proof, in centre of Public Square, and also on site of W. M. Miller & Co.'s store, Market street.

William Ross, appointed in 1832, kept the office on the site of Lazarus Brothers' store, South Main street.

David Collings, appointed in 1835, kept the office on the Public Square, late W. J. McLaughlin's.

A. O. Chahoon, appointed in 1835, kept the office on the site of Chahoon Hall, Market street.

J. P. La Clerc, appointed in 1843, had the office at 78 Public Square.

E. B. Collings, appointed in 1845, kept the office on the site of 80 Public Square, lately McLaughlin's.

Steuben Butler, appointed in 1849, kept the office on the site of Shupp's jewelry store, Market street.

John Reichard, appointed in 1853, kept the office on the site of 80 Public Square.

Jacob Sorber, appointed in 1854, kept the office in the same place part of the time, and then removed it to the site of the Bristol House.

E. B. Collings, reappointed in 1858, kept the office in the last named place until 1861.

S. M. Barton was appointed in 1861, when he removed the office to the east side of Public Square.

E. H. Chase, appointed in 1865, kept the office at the same place.

Stewart Pearce, appointed in 1869, also kept the office in the same place until April, 1870, when he removed it to Market street, where is now Theiss's insurance office.

Douglass Smith, appointed in 1877, removed the office to Music Hall building, where it has ever since remained.

A. S. Orr was postmaster from 1881 to 1885.

Joseph K. Bogert from 1885 until his death in 1887.

Mrs. J. K. Bogert from 1887 to 1892.

L. B. Landmesser, 1892 to 1896.

E. F. Bogert from June 1, 1896.

HISTORIC HOUSE PURCHASED.

Washington, Nov. 10, 1896.—Under the operation of a law passed at the last session of Congress the United States to-day became possessed of the house opposite the old Ford Theatre where Lincoln was carried after the assassination, and died. The house will continue to be occupied by the Lincoln Memorial Association as a museum of relics of the martyred President.

IN FAVOR OF THE PENN HEIR.

[Daily Record, Nov. 14, 1896.]

Two preliminary cases involving the ownership of the land comprised in Manor of Sunbury in Plymouth Township, claimed by William Stewart, heir of William Penn, were decided by arbitrators P. H. Campbell, Byron Hahn and W. J. Trembath yesterday. The cases were brought by Jacob Bryant, alleged owner of the land, against Lloyd Lamereaux and Samuel Hunter, tenants, and were heard before magistrates, one before alderman Bulkeley of this city and the other before squire Young of West Nanticoke. Both were brought into court on appeal and tried under the compulsory arbitration act. The claim of the former suit was \$300 damages for cutting timber, and in the latter suit \$31.24, value of timber carried away. Bryant claimed ownership in each case through occupation of the land and the defendant tenants set up the claim that the land was owned by the Penn heirs. The evidence satisfied the arbitrators that the Penn heir is the real owner and decided for the defendants. Next week the real issue will be tried in the case of William Stewart, Penn's heir, vs. Bryant, who claims possession.

INTERESTING SKETCH OF NATHANIEL RUTTER.

[Daily Record, Nov. 14, 1896.]

This day (Nov. 14, 1896) is the ninetieth anniversary of the birth of Nathaniel Rutter, an estimable and well known citizen of Wilkes-Barre.

In Mr. Rutter we see a hale and genial person, whose residence of seventy-one years in Wilkes-Barre binds the present to the past, and enables him to appreciate the change and progress that in Wilkes-Barre has increased its population about seventy fold.

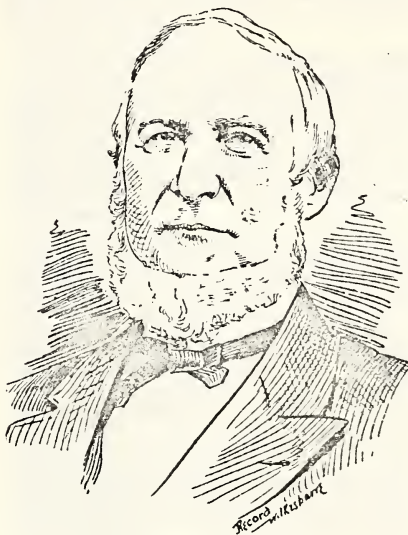
It is pleasant and profitable to contemplate the conditions and lines of life that led to the progressive civilization of the present, as it will revive the memories of the past and cheer, by bringing to our thoughts, events and circumstances that were the charm of former days.

The retrospection of a well spent life gives to the thoughts and affections a moral flow and in a measure enables a person to realize and appreciate his position and to profit by the experiences of the past.

It may also benefit by showing the sentiments which at different periods met with public approbation.

It is a present happiness to know individualities that in a former time were distinctively marked by a feeling of general interest, of dignity, of unobtrusiveness and of social manner, that were charming characteristics of the time and best illustrate its domestic history.

Reference is here made to a manhood that has occupied a prominent place



NATHANIEL RUTTER.

for seventy-one years in the social and business circles of Wilkes-Barre, one who scorned what was base, whose nature found its happiness in doing good, and whose influence has been a benefaction to the Christian church and whose example was that of an honest, conscientious and successful man in all the relations of life.

His long continued residence in Wilkes-Barre gives Mr. Rutter, in its miraculous change, that personal knowledge and that interesting and instructive experience that are requisite in local matters to fairly contrast the Wilkes-Barre of 1825 with that of 1896.

At the former time the great Wyoming coal field was but a promising productive industry, while as a chronol-

ogical period; progressive civilization seems then to have shifted to the lines it is following.

Mr. Rutter, whose well known personality will long be remembered here, was born at Pequea Valley, fourteen miles below Lancaster City, Pa., Nov. 14, 1806, and impelled by a desire to prosper in the pursuits of life, came to Wilkes-Barre in 1825, it being then a small village of much less than 1,000 population, and bounded by North, South, River and Back (later Canal) streets. Then there were no paved streets, street lights, flagstone pavements, railroads, gas, electricity as a motive power, or a public water supply. Then the intersection of Market and Main streets divided the Public Square into four parts and the west side of Main street from Baur's printing house to the Christel Tavern, now occupied by the Boston Store and other immense establishments, was a cultivated field. Arks and rafts laden with salt, plaster, shingles, lumber and agricultural products passed down the river, which also furnished an abundance of shad.

Then, within the present limits of this city, were great fields, where children played and fathers toiled, and the brown footpaths that stretched so far and wide, awake pleasant memories of departed years.

About sixty years ago, Mr. Rutter was associated with Mr. George M. Hollenback in the business of general merchandise at the corner of River and Market streets. The management of the business was entrusted to Mr. Rutter until the death of Mr. Hollenback, Nov. 7, 1866. Afterward Mr. Rutter, at the corner of Franklin and Market streets, carried on a hardware store until 1888. In business matters Mr. Rutter's manner was self-possessed, while his nature was responsive to consideration for the welfare of those associated with him, and calculated to engender confidence and command respect.

His life and influence are associated with service and companionship in social life, wherein are found the mental, moral and personal qualities which are essential factors in moral and religious life. In him were united a keen perception and a practical judgment, that secured for him popular confidence and favor, while his sincerity of purpose and upright intention have placed him in responsible positions, the memory of which will defy the march of time.

Mr. Rutter has been identified with

the march of progressive civilization which has so increased the growth and consequence of the place, that the life and methods of former times bears little resemblance to the present.

Unassuming in all the relations of life, the spirit of religious culture which he improved by diligent observation took deep hold upon his nature and enabled him as a Christian to fulfill in the community a most beneficent purpose. His example would tend to exalt the dignity of man, and raise him in the scale of virtue, while his social and domestic life, his religious character, will ever be a blessed memorial.

His life, prolonged in health, affords an instructive proof how serene and happy old age can be made by the recollection of well directed labors, by the possession of well deserved esteem, by the resources of religious thought and action, and an unshaken confidence in the heavenly will and in the promises of Christianity.

In a reminiscent sketch of Mr. Rutter, interest is added in the brief mention of his marital relations, having been twice married, the wives sisters, from well known and esteemed parentage. Their parents were Jacob and Sarah Hollenback Cist, the mother being a daughter of Matthias Hollenback. Mr. Hollenback was born near Jonestown, Lancaster (now Lebanon) County, Pennsylvania, Feb. 17, 1752. He was an attorney-at-law and generally known as Judge Hollenback; was a man of rare judgment and influence, made large and profitable investments in coal and lumber lands, and died in Wilkes-Barre Feb. 18, 1829.

Jacob Cist, Mr. Rutter's father-in-law, was born in Philadelphia, March 13, 1782, and was a person possessed of rare general information in matters pertaining to geology. His practical knowledge and appreciation of the importance of anthracite coal in the interests and requirements of civilization was far in advance of his time. We have the fulfillment of his prediction, made eighty years ago, that the deposit of anthracite coal here would necessitate the opening of mines, and the building of numerous towns and villages throughout the Wyoming Valley, from the Nanticoke Falls to the Lackawanna River. Mr. Cist was furthermore an accomplished linguist, and renowned for his proficiency in drawing and painting; also a popular contributor several literary journals.

"In 1828," says Hazard's Register, "the Valley of Wyoming and its valuable beds and veins of coal have been correctly described in the Journal of Science by Mr. Jacob Cist, an able naturalist, whose recent death is lamented by all acquainted with his merits."

He came to Wilkes-Barre in 1808, was appointed postmaster, which office he retained until his death, Friday, Dec. 30, 1825.

Jan. 13, 1831, Mr. Rutter entered into the bonds of matrimony with Mary Ann Cist, who was a niece of his friend, George M. Hollenback.

Mrs. Rutter was an important factor in social circles, and in the church her's was a character and influence known for its excellence and usefulness; in these her memory is inseparable from earnest work, in which we have an example of discretion which was the fruit of sound judgment and elevated morality.

In behalf of the needy Mrs. Rutter's nature was instinctively charitable and sympathetic. She was sedate, fixed in her estimate of religious truth, while her tenderness was a hallowed companionship in the home circle.

Mr. Rutter also married Ellen, a sister of his former wife, and widow of Rev. Robert Dunlap, D. D., late pastor of a Presbyterian church at Pittsburg, Pa. Mrs. Rutter's tastes were suited to the social position that devolved upon her, and in her example there is a faithful adherence to the requirements of duty.

She was a woman of fixed principles, her methods marked by an air of refinement that is remembered for the spirit of Christian kindness and sympathy which crowned her life. Unwearying in her sympathy, it was to her a pleasure to make her ministrations to the needy and suffering a benefaction throughout the community in which she lived. Mrs. Rutter died Sept. 20, 1880.

The memories of this valley during three score years and ten brings to Mr. Rutter, in the activities and companionships of life, friendships and picturesque scenes, which in the affections have exercised an influence in forming the character and shaping the destiny of one who has witnessed great change and progress in Wilkes-Barre within that time.

He has had abundant opportunity to witness the relation which time bears to the processes of nature, and were he

impressed or influenced by the grandeur of geographical features, the mountain side, intervalle, and river, which beautify Wilkes-Barre and its surroundings, may have given impress to a character which was inseparable from moral principle, as exhibited in the life, character and example of Nathaniel Rutter.

G. Urquhart, M. D.

A REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Nov. 11, 1896.

To the Editor of
The Record:

My Dear Sir—

From my early boyhood I have been accustomed to regard the "Record" as the natural depository of such family muniments and documents as may touch upon the history of the valley, or upon the lives and careers of those who, themselves or through their descendants have contributed to the welfare or glory of the community—a community which promises to become the greatest in point of wealth and numbers and is the greatest in fame and story within the borders of the old commonwealth, and it being, that by means of your "art preservative" you can embalm in your files such matter as if given to the usual guardianship of the family desk or chest would soon by negligence or accident be lost and gone, I beg that you will print the following letter. The writer, Captain Andrew Lee, was, I am assured by Dr. Egle, the present State librarian—as set forth in the Pennsylvania archives—a captain of the line in Hazen's noted Pennsylvania regiment. Certain it is also that he was one of the Paxtang boys, of whom the same Dr. Egle is the veracious historiographer. The letter is certainly of more concern to Capt. Lee's descendants than to the general reader, and yet the allusions in it to events and names renowned in the early history of the valley and the country lend it an interest to those who care to recall the story of the sacrifices and sufferings endured by our forefathers for that liberty which to-day many of us are too apt to treat as lightly as if it were a matter of course, and the common heritage of mankind. The date of the letter, while thirty years after the close of the Revolutionary War, preceded by seven years the battles of Waterloo and of New Orleans. At its date the woeful terror, the bestial directory and the reactionary consulate, has but just given place in France to the splendid pomp of the military empire. The imperial eagles had perched within the gates of every capital in Western Europe, save one, and in

perfidious Albion this year was laying the keel of the fateful Bellerophon, that keel which shortly was to grate upon the shores of St. Helena. In our own land, the Sage of Monticello sat in the seat of the mighty, and down in Richmond the slayer of Hamilton was stoutly fighting for a safe deliverance from the charge of high treason. While in Tennessee attacking Jefferson and lauding Burr, harangued a hot head, one Col. Andrew Jackson, who shortly was to make much tumult in the world, and incidentally to try conclusions with one Gen. Packenham in our newly acquired province of Louisiana. And although ninety years seems no great matter, yet so far back in the hoary past seems the year of grace 1807 with the long stretch in its wake of great discoveries, inventions, improvements and betterment of those things which go to make worth living these an de siecle years that to my mind it would have been more in keeping if this writing had been inscribed upon papyrus in hieroglyphics rather than in fair flowing English upon paper hardly yellow with time. Col. Timothy Pickering, the addressee of Capt. Lee's communication, was a man who played many parts.

Originally from Massachusetts, he settled in Wilkes-Barre and as we all well known, took an active part in the Pennamite War. Joining Washington's army at the beginning of the struggle, he became adjutant general, then quartermaster general. He filled in civil life, after the close of the war, many offices of distinction. Federal Senator from Massachusetts, Postmaster General, Secretary of State, Congressional Representative and finally rounded out his days and career as a member of the executive council of his native State.

It only remains for me to add that the letter was received by me from Mrs. Priscilla Lee Bennett, a grand-daughter of the writer.

Yours very truly,
W. L. Paine.

Wilkes barre, Novr. 10, 1807.

Dear Sir:

I now take the liberty of soliciting those services which you were so good as to tender me when last in Wilkes barre. I had intended troubling you last Session but postponed it from time to time until it was too late. I am indeed fearful that it is too late to derive much advantage from any application or information I can lay before you. However my situation and circumstances in life being much reduced from what I had once reason to expect from prospects of earlier life, I am induced to make another exertion to recover what I consider very justly due to me.

In order that you may see the justice and equity of my claims, I will go into as full a detail as my memory will permit me, I cannot recollect dates &c as all my papers relative to this business were lodged in the war office and were together with many others of this same nature consumed by fire when that office was burnt. I must therefore relate from memory entirely. I entered service under General Montgomery, was wounded at the taking of St. Johns, and was sent down to Albany with the prisoners that were taken there with a recommendation from Genl. Montgomery for a commission in the army, which recommendation I presented to Colonel Moses Hazen who gave me the appointment of a lieutenant in his Regt. in Nov 1776. In a little more than a month I had seventy-five men recruited, I then received orders from Genl. Schuyler to march to Phila., the then place of rendezvous, but while on the way Genl. Washington, hearing of troops advancing, sent one of his Aids to me, from whom I recd orders to march to Trenton, where I accordingly went and recd there Arms and Ammunition for my men and were at the taking of the Hessians with whom we marched to Phila. We there recd cloathing and were fully equipt. I then took sick and lay in phila till Spring of '77 when I recd orders from Genl. Hazen to march up the Susquehanna after deserters. I afterwards joined the regt at Princeton New Jersey and served that campaign commanding a company 'till Genl. Hazen appointed his Nephew Moses White captain of that same company (formerly had been commanded by Capt. Joseph Tary who was promoted to a majority) I being dissatisfied with that appointment gave in my resignation to Genl. Sullivan to whom I also assigned my reasons. Genl. Sullivan however would not receive my resignation—he told me I must serve the campaign and in the meantime should have justice done me—he shortly after ordered a party out to Staten Island, where I had the misfortune of being made a prisoner and where I continued as such two years. I made my escape from there and recd a parole from Genl. Washington untill the affair should be settled, which was done by a board of british officers who sat for that purpose and who relinquished all claim to me. Having returned to Head Quarters Genl. Washington ordered me to join my regt at Cohoaz. I there found Genl. Hazen had struck me off the muster rolls, but notwithstanding gave me the command of a company, which I marched to Head Quarters, I there lodged a complaint before Genl. Washington and he gave me a separate company and of picked men out of the whole line

of the army to act under the command of Col Lee who commanded the horse, until my rank should be settled. Unfortunately about the time a board of Genl. Officers sat for that purpose I recd a wound in the Battle of Springfield and was unable to attend, the consequences of which was that my rank never was settled; which prevented my accepting an appointment in Col Lee's Legion of horse. I was ordered to baskenridge hospital where I had to pay all my own expenses. I was afterwards removed to Albany hospital where Lord Sterling commanded, who appointed the Superintendent of that hospital where I remained till the close of the war, when I joined my regt.. Genl. Washington then ordered me to take command of the three years men in our Regt. which I commanded till we took possession of New York.—the war being then over, the men under my command, petitioned for their discharge, which I signed and handed to Genl. Washington, who told me I was disbanding myself, to which I consented. He afterwards recommended me to Congress for a pension, which I declined applying for, conceiving it to be unnecessary provided I could get arrearages of pay and the amount of my expenses while recruiting, to do which I attended at the sitting of Congress in New York three months for the purpose of having these accounts adjusted, but unable to obtain my object through the absence of Mr. Pierce the pay master—I attended likewise in Phila. where Col. Hartley and Mr. Kittera members of Congress advised me to petition anew—which was referred to a committee of which Mr. Tracy was chairman and after waiting for several weeks Mr. Tracy advised me to return home, and in the mean time Mr. Montgomery should inform me of any occurrence which should happen. I accordingly returned home and received a letter from Mr. Montgomery, mentioning that my claim was just but could not be allowed owing to the enormity of Demand on Congress, for all would have an equal right to be allowed their demands with me.

A few years since Genl. Hanna then a member of Congress from this State took the trouble of examining the offices, the result of which examination you will perceive by the enclosed letter—

I must beg some information on another subject i. e. some Military Warrants which I gave a certain Robert Finley to have located, he has sold them and I since find that they have been located by a Mr. Mathews or Ormsby returned into the Register Genls. office at Washington. You would oblige me much by informing me what measures be necessary to pursue

in order to get possession of the Warrants again—or whether Finley's receipts for same are not sufficient to entitle me to this land,—the number &c of the Warrants are as follows. One in the name of John Beatty late a soldier in the Pennsylvania line calling for 100 Acres No 8961—one in the name of John Waggoner late a soldier of Hazens' Regt. for 100 Acres No 13395. One in the name of Lieut Andrew Lee of Hazens Regt. calling for 200 acres No 1330 One in the name of John McKinney late a soldier in the Pa line for 100 Acres No. 10113. I likewise enclose you a Deed for 500 Acres of land in the great Bend of Tennessee River. I know not whether the title is good or if it is, I may lose it for taxes—the members of Congress from that State, would be able I should suppose, to give the necessary information concerning this. Thus Sir, I have laid before you every circumstance which I conceived important. Should there however be any further information necessary to further my views Be so good as to let me know as soon as convenient. And your attention to the above shall ever be held in the most grateful esteem by Dear Sir

Your obliged Humble Servt.
Andrew Lee

Hon Timothy Pickering
Washington.

ICE AGE LOCALIZED.

At the meeting of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society Nov. 13, 1896, Dr. Frederick Corss of Kingston read an interesting paper on the glacial period and its relations to the valley of the Susquehanna River. The doctor prefaced his essay with some remarks about the geography of the Susquehanna Valley as shown by the maps of the geological survey, its crookedness, the territory it and its tributaries drained and the distribution of the great terminal moraine stretching across several States. At Tioga Point Dr. Corss estimated the Susquehanna derived its waters from a watershed of about 5,000 square miles. Doubtless changes in elevation have in some cases changed the course of some of the Susquehanna's tributaries, but the present general drainage is probably very ancient.

The watershed of the north branch as far south as Beach Haven was once glaciated and the drift mounds are probably vestiges of the flooded river epoch. The ice sheet which overspread this region was probably several thousand feet in thickness in some parts. The glacier encroached upon soil and possibly upon

standing trees, upon broken rocks and crumbling ledges remaining from the preceding great upheaval.

The great ice sheet from the north covered all the hills of the upper Susquehanna. In Wyoming Valley no doubt the ice rose higher than the present tops of surrounding mountains, as shown by the glacial markings on the exposed rocks. The melting of this continental ice caused the flooded river epoch. Present channels were too small to carry off the flow and mountain torrents broke over the lower summits. In the deeper lakes the waters deposited a sediment of fine mud. Where there was a chance for the water to find a lower level, there was a torrent loaded with broken ice, rocks and soil. Very fine hydraulic effects must have followed the bursting of great ice dams at Campbell's Ledge and similar points. The sudden breaking of such a dam would move an enormous amount of rock and soil.

The speaker then went on to give what he called his purely amateur observation.

An account was given of the location upon the river drift of Athens, Sayre and South Waverly. In the central portion of this plain is a large mound of gravel, boulders, sand and clay, called Spanish Hill. The essay then gave a vivid description of how it and similar deposits were probably formed.

The glacier which covered the whole watershed of the upper Susquehanna has retreated under the increasing warmth as far as Southern New York. The whole region is swept by an enormous torrent of water loaded with mud, ice and boulders. Confined by the narrow gorge from Ulster to Towanda the descending flood is checked. Perhaps the whole narrow pass is obstructed by immense bodies of ice brought down from the face of the glacier, real inland icebergs. So the swift onward rush is stopped and the whole valley of Athens becomes a somewhat tranquil lake, the water pouring over the tops of the lower surrounding hills as is still evident from water grooving in many places. The cobble stones and coarser gravel settle first at the head of the valley and the finer sediment and sand at the lower part (Tioga Point). The stratified sediment gradually becomes deeper until the whole valley is filled up to the level of the top of Spanish Hill. After years the great flood subsides, the winter freezing is less severe, the ice gorge

gives way and the water sweeps through their present channels and slowly carry with them the drift material which has filled the valley.

The whole Wyoming Valley is a drift plain and the village of Wyoming stands on a large mound which is beautifully terraced in many places, as may be seen south of the monument. Apparently the surface was once the bank of the river as in fact it is now during high freshets.

The large mound in Plymouth called Welsh Hill was formerly covered with masses of conglomerate rock. Evidently the ice torrent swept up Poke Hollow and planed off the top of the mountain at Judge Rhone's farm, and rushing over, deposited the rocks and other debris in the gorge where is now the dam of the Plymouth Water Company.

The outer crest of Kingston Mountain presents many evidences of glaciation, all the way to North Mountain. The speaker considers the whole Lehman plateau to have been covered by the flooded Susquehanna. Description was given of an interesting drift mound in Luzerne Borough, on which the 143d Regiment had its encampment in 1861 at the outbreak of the war.

The essayist ventured the opinion that the buried river bed in Wyoming Valley, described by geologists, may not be a continuous bed, but only a series of pot holes like those in Watkins Glen.

In closing the speaker remarked that the drift mounds of the Susquehanna appear to be the records of a flooded river epoch and show by their position and structure the source and method of construction.

The following persons were elected to membership: Mrs. Andrew F. Derr, Miss Anna M. Hunt, Mr. Fred M. Chase, Mr. Byron G. Hahn, Mr. R. P. Robinson, Mrs. Isaac P. Hand, Dr. Charles H. Miner, Hon. F. M. Nichols, Mr. Felix Ansart, Mr. Elmer E. Buckman.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

[Daily Record, Nov. 18, 1896.]

The Daughters of the American Revolution and their friends met in the Historical Society rooms last evening and listened to the closing part of the address by Wesley E. Woodruff on Alexander Hamilton, the first part of which was given a fortnight ago. As at that time, the address was much enjoyed and the speaker won many compliments for the clever and scholarly handling of an interesting subject.

The speaker briefly summarized the scheme of the first lecture which dealt in detail with Hamilton's career as a college student, pamphleteer and soldier. Then he took up the sketch at the entrance of Hamilton into Washington's cabinet and showed why Washington had turned instinctively to Hamilton as the first Secretary of the Treasury, though all his great advisers of the perilous time had told him that Hamilton was the only man who could untangle the financial tangle. Reference was made to the Report on Public Credit, which outlined the financial policy of the country on a basis that established the honor of the young country at home and abroad; to the Report on National Banks, which brought into play the implied powers of the constitution and made that document a living instrument; to the Report on Manufactures, which established the principle of protection to the nascent industries of this country. This famous state paper has for the past century been the granary to which all the politicians have gone for arguments concerning the protection theory, and not anything of account has been added to the subject as it was first presented to Congress by Hamilton. The circumstance of Hamilton asking Congress permission to appear and speak to that body on one of his proposed measures was alluded to and the observation made that the refusal of Congress to consider anything but a written communication established the precedent of making reports to Congress in writing—a custom that has ever since prevailed. The log rolling agreement between Hamilton and Jefferson was responsible for the assumption of the State debts by the National Congress and for the establishment of the national capital on the Potomac. The quarrel between the two, Hamilton the Federalist and Liberal Constructionist and Jefferson the Anti-Federalist and Strict Constructionist, formed the middle part of the address and it was given in some detail. This detail involved also a resume at the attitude of Jefferson while minister to France and while governor of Virginia during the revolution. One of the most interesting portions of the talk was the summary of reasons for the close intimacy of Hamilton and Washington and for the complete confidence of the great chieftain in his Secretary of the Treasury. Hamilton's nationality was cited as the strong governing force of his public services—a nationality that yielded every necessary sacrifice and that used all the means that nature had given him to insure the undying glory of the infant republic. As a preface to the duel recital the speaker gave

a glance into the antecedents and the character of Aaron Burr and he detailed the causes for that awful affair and the reasons why Hamilton did not see his way clear to decline the challenge.

In summing up Mr. Woodruff called attention to the fact that Hamilton was a master in every field he entered—as a student, an orator, a pamphleteer, a soldier, a statesman, a financier, a lawyer. The genius of the constitution was his and he was the greatest intellectual product of this great country. As long as republics shall endure or the United States remain one nation, so long will the name of Alexander Hamilton be held in lasting remembrance and gratitude.

THIS BIBLE 300 YEARS OLD.

[From the Allentown Call.]

Rev. Jared Fritzinger is the owner of a bible printed in Germany in 1596—making its present age 300 years. With the exception that a few leaves are imperfect in form, it is in good condition. The print is plain, the letters well formed and the paper of a coarse but substantial quality. It is printed in chapters, and has a number of illustrations. The volume, however, looks awkward by comparing it with modern publications, and plainly sets forth the progress and extension in the art of printing since the venerable work came from the press. It came to Rev. Mr. Fritzinger as a present from a German born aged widow at Liberty, Tioga County, Pa., in 1851, where he served his first charge soon after admission to the Reformed ministry. Very naturally the ancient sacred volume is prized very highly and no money could induce him to part with it.

The first printed edition of the bible was commenced in 1444 and finished in 1490. The first edition of the whole bible, strictly speaking, was, however, the Complutensian Polyglot of Cardinal Ximenes, issued in 1517, so that Rev. Mr. Fritzinger's volume is a very early edition. The next oldest bibles in the country the Morning Call knows of are a collection of six owned by Dr. Daniel Yoder of Catasauqua, they bearing the dates of 1620, 1714, 1734, 1735, 1736 and 1759. One of these bibles was used for many years in the pulpit of Rev. John Conrad Yaeger, who was pastor of the Lutheran congregations in Allentown, Freidenville, Shoenersville and Dryland until 1832, when he was succeeded by his son, the late Rev. Joshua Yaeger of this city. The oldest bible now known of in Pennsylvania is in the possession of Dr. Charles H. Haeseler of Pottsville, and was

handed down in the family from father to son for a period of 341 years, it having been printed and purchased in 1555. Several years ago a Gutenberg bible, printed in 1455, was sold at public sale in the city of New York for \$8,000.

THE LATE LEWIS ALLEN.

[Contributed.]

Lewis Allen was born in Plymouth Township March 20, 1819, and his last day upon earth dawned Nov. 14, 1896.

His father was Otis Allen. Because of the large family it was found necessary to allow the young boy to go out into the rough world and begin to carve for himself a destiny and to earn somewhat for the home circle by laboring for his uncle, Peter Allen. Here he spent six years of his life. Lewis was then apprenticed to Fayette Allen, of whom he learned the carpenter's trade.

After completing his apprenticeship, he went to the public works on the Lehigh River, building locks, docks, etc. After about one year of service he was obliged to return home before the work was finished, but consented to oversee the rest of the work after the foreman was killed. Shortly after this he married Miss Eliza Husted, settling at Alentown, Lake Township. Mr. Allen was one of the pioneers, his nearest neighbor being four miles distant. He was a life-long farmer, and yet as a millwright he was considered one of the best. When about middle life he was converted, was appointed class leader and for years was a member of the official board.

In 1861 he was stricken with typhoid fever and his case was considered to be hopeless. After this severe illness he was attacked with sore eyes and spent one year in New York under treatment.

RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT WASHINGTON.

The Record's Tunkhannock correspondent sends the following:

Mrs. Squire Sampson of this place received the other day from George W. Harrah, a friend residing in England, a copy of the London Times of the date of Wednesday, Nov. 9, 1795. The paper speaks editorially of "The resignation of President Washington," and publishes in full what it denominates his "Address on the occasion of his resignation," having reference doubtless to Washington's address to the American

people on declining a third term as President. The editorial is of general interest as showing the sentiments of the English people towards us a hundred years ago. It says: "We are sorry to announce the resignation of George Washington, Esq., of his situation as President of the United States of America. This event was made known yesterday by the arrival of the Belvidere, from New York, with letters from thence on the 27th of September. Notwithstanding the intention of General Washington had long been announced, it was expected that the solicitation of his friends would have prevailed upon him to continue in office for the peace of America. He has, however, declined all further public business, and in resigning his station, has concluded a life of honor and glory. His address in resigning: his office is a very masterly performance; and we shall give it at length. It is expected that Mr. Adams will be chosen his successor."

WYOMING PIONEER PREACHERS.

[Daily Record, Nov. 24, 1896.]

The Methodist ministers at their meeting yesterday listened to a most interesting paper by George B. Kulp, Esq., on the ministers of Wyoming Valley prior to the year 1800. The subject included not only Methodist preachers, but ministers of other denominations. "They were the men," said the essayist, "who ministered in holy things in Wyoming prior to the year 1800. These were the men who laid the foundations deep and enduring. They were the men who labored for our Christian civilization. Their only thought was Christ. They now rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

Appended is a synopsis:

There is nowhere on the face of God's green earth a section of the country in which a more indefatigable missionary labored harder and shed more tears than in this valley and the vicinity in which we have dwelt. Even before the white man had a habitation the Moravian missionary was laboring up and down these valleys. Like Paul they were determined not to know anything save Jesus Christ. The most prominent among these missionaries were Bishop Cammerhoff, John Martin Mack, David Zeisberger, Adam Grube, Frederick Post and Baron John Watteville, the latter having been a

son-in-law of Count Zinzendorf, who was preaching the gospel to the Indians in 1742.

It is said that in the year 1741 Rev. John Sergeant, founder of the Indian training school in Stockbridge, Mass., came to the Wyoming Valley and preached to the aborigines; also that Rev. David Brainard and his brother, Rev. John Brainard, visited this valley and preached to the Indians before the French war. That faithful Quaker, John Woolman, was also a missionary to the Indians in this valley.

Among the earliest acts of the Connecticut-Susquehanna Land Company was a regulation providing support for a minister who should accompany the first emigrants to Wyoming Valley in 1762. Rev. William Marsh, a pastor of the Congregational Church, was selected. He and about twenty others were murdered by the savages in the lower part of our city on Oct. 15, 1763. Rev. George Beckwith, of Lynn, Mass., was chosen to succeed him, and he arrived at Wyoming with the First Forty (as the second colony was called) Feb. 8, 1769. For the support of schools and the orthodox gospel ministry, the company now appropriated three shares of land in each township.

In 1770 the company engaged Rev. Jacob Johnson, of Groton, Connecticut, to take the place of Mr. Beckwith. He remained but a few months when he returned to Connecticut, leaving Rev. Elkanah Holmes in charge. Rev. Bernard Page of London was assigned to the Wyoming parish in 1772; he was in Wilkes-Barre the previous year and was doubtless the first minister of the Episcopal Church in Wyoming. He came as a stranger uninvited, with no one to receive him, but animated, nevertheless with the spirit expressed in the Master's words: "Go ye and preach the gospel to every creature." At the time of his arrival the Pennamite war had been going on for three years, and he was subjected to much inconvenience and confronted with serious obstacles. He wrote letters to both contending parties. The suspension of active hostilities was doubtless due in part to Mr. Page's intervention. He left Wyoming temporarily and arrived in London Aug. 24, 1772, where he was ordained and licensed by the Lord Bishop, after which he returned to the scene of his former labors. The Wyoming parish contained an extensive territory and much of his time was taken up in

charge of his mission in parts remote from Wilkes-Barre.

Rev. Jacob Johnson in October, 1772, accepted a call to Wyoming, and asked for dismission as pastor of the Groton Congregational Church. The organization of the Congregational Church in this valley may date from the meeting, Aug. 23, 1773, inviting him to Wyoming. It subsequently became Presbyterian under Rev. Nicholas Murray. On Dec. 8, 1773, Kingston and Plymouth agreed to relieve Mr. Johnson of the part of his duty in preaching to them. Mr. Johnson continued in his position as pastor until advancing age and increasing infirmities prevented further labors. He died March 15, 1797.

About 1773 a Dutch or German Reformed Congregational minister named Von Benschotten arrived in the valley from the Hudson. He was very zealous and established the First Congregational Society in Hanover Township. In 1792 Von Benschotten was succeeded by Rev. Andrew Gray, a Scotch-Irish preacher of considerable ability. Shortly after assuming his pastoral duties he married one of the thirty communicants, Miss Mary, daughter of Capt. Lazarus Stewart. He, with Mr. Johnson of Wilkes-Barre and Mr. Wadhams of Plymouth, who came to the valley in 1772, constituted the entire clerical force of the Congregational Church. Mr. Gray removed to the State of New York, where he preached for many years, while Mr. Wadhams died in Plymouth in 1806.

As early as 1773 there were Baptists in Kingston Township. In 1786 special efforts were made in Pittston Township, and in the fall of that year a congregation was organized there by Rev. James Benedict. In 1793 a Congregational Church was established in Exeter Township. Rev. Peter Drake was the minister. Mr. Benedict was succeeded by Rev. James Finn and he by Rev. William Bishop, who settled in Luzerne County in 1794. The latter was a zealous and successful preacher. In 1790 Rev. Samuel Sturdevant emigrated from Danbury, Conn., and settled in Braintrim, then in this county. The same year Rev. Jacob Drake and Rev. Roswell Goff emigrated to Luzerne from New England. They, with the others, preached in Wilkes-Barre, Plymouth, Pittston and other places.

Those present at the meeting are: Rev. Messrs. Warner, Transue, Peck, Madison, Sumner, Labar, Armstrong, Hawley, Hiller, Severson, Treible, Van

Hoese, Reasoner, Wrigley, Murdock, Jones, Dr. Pearce and Dr. Sprague. Among the visitors were: Rev. Azh Derian of Armenia, Rev. Mr. Broushe of Central Pennsylvania Conference, Calvin Parsons, and Mrs. Safford of Kingston.

MRS. GREGORY DEAD.

[Daily Record, Nov. 24, 1896.]

There passed away at the Old Ladies' Home yesterday one who has been a familiar figure in Wilkes-Barre for many years—Mrs. Sarah A. Gregory. For the last eight or ten years she has not been so familiar a figure, for during that period she has been blind. For the last ten years or so she has been comfortably cared for as a boarder at the Home through the kindness of a niece in a Western State, who has been glad to thus reciprocate for favors shown her in other days by Mrs. Gregory, who raised and educated this niece.

Mrs. Gregory was born in Florida eighty-four years ago. For many years she taught music here, both privately and at Wyoming Seminary, as also at the Bloomsburg Normal School. Her maiden name was Smith, and she was a sister-in-law of the late Mrs. Hannah Cora Smith. Mrs. Smith's husband, Dr. Waters Smith, was a surgeon in the United States Navy, whose career was short, but brilliant.

Mrs. Gregory was a sister of the late Rev. E. H. Snowden's first wife, both being daughters of the collector of the port at St. Augustine. It was at the latter place that Mrs. Gregory was born. She married a Mr. Gregory, who was a law student in her father's office. He was a native of Montrose, Pa., and had come to Florida for his health. Their married life was happy but brief, death claiming him in a few months. The young widow then came North to fight the battle of life alone, and it is fully fifty years since she located in Wyoming Valley.

Coming herself from a high born family, she was justly proud of her ancestry. She was a lineal descendant of Sidney Smith, the distinguished dinner-out, and her father was a first cousin of Abigail, first wife of President John Adams. Her mother was an Allison, and came from the distinguished Scotch family of that name.

She was given a thorough education and her mind was thus stored with information that made her a charming

companion. Instead of being taught Greek and Latin and heavy mathematics, as our girls are taught now, she was taught the polite accomplishments of music and dancing and belles lettres. She spoke the Spanish language, and some French. Many of our ladies can recall her as their earliest teacher on the piano.

She was aristocratic, but not offensively or uncharitably so. She was high spirited and quick to resent an injury, yet she was quick to forgive as well. She was accomplished, proud, picturesque, kind, generous, noble.

She was full of sympathy for those in sorrow, as many bereaved ones can testify. Here is a case in point. Her physician, to whom she was devotedly attached, lost his daughter not long ago, and it was Mrs. Gregory's grief that she could not have taken the little one's place and left the doctor's home circle unbroken.

Mrs. John W. Metcalfe, who lives at the homestead of the late Rev. E. H. Snowden in Forty Fort, is a niece. Other nephews and nieces are these:

James Glassel Snowden, Castaline, O.; Mrs. J. de Shea Patton, Cleveland, Tenn.; Mrs. James M. Williamson, Oakland, Cal. It will be remembered that her brother-in-law, Rev. Mr. Snowden, died two years ago at the ripe age of 95 years. The intermarriages of nearly all her relatives were into distinguished families.

Mrs. Gregory was a communicant of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and passed away in the consolations of that communion. She was not a sufferer from any particular malady, the machinery of life was simply worn out.

VISITING THE OLD HOMESTEAD.

[Daily Record, Dec. 1, 1896.]

Henry Cooper, of Chester, Pa., came up to spend Thanksgiving with W. M. Wagner of Plainsville. Mr. Cooper is a man of three score years and was born at Port Blanchard, which place he left forty years ago. His parents and grandparents were among the early settlers. His great grandfather was born on Monockonock Island, which has been washed away, with the exception of a very small area. The Cooper burying plot near Port Blanchard, which is in a sadly neglected condition, is named after his ancestors and they lie at rest there. It is ten years since he visited

POLITICS IN 1832.

The Record has been handed by Samuel H. Lynch a copy of a local paper of Sept. 26, 1832, the Wyoming Herald, published by Asher Miner & Steuben Butler. The only person mentioned in its columns, now living, is Nathaniel Rutter, who was a member of the vigilance committee in the interest of Henry Clay for President. The paper is full of politics, and tariff was the uppermost topic. Cincinnati merchants were offering to buy their winter pork at \$2.50 per hundred if Clay should be elected President and only \$1.50 if Jackson should be elected.

It was believed the Democrats had carried Maine, but by reduced majority.

The Indian war in Wisconsin was ended and Black Hawk was a prisoner in custody of Lieut. Davis. This young officer was Jefferson Davis, afterwards president of the Confederacy.

Cholera was epidemic in Washington.

Mrs. Evans, who kept a candy shop where Loomis building now stands was advertising "a quantity of ready-made coarse and fine shirts and shirts." The latter are evidently obsolete.

The packet boat North America was running the canal from Wilkes-Barre to Northumberland, leaving Wilkes-Barre twice a week at 3 a. m., arriving at Northumberland the same day. Fare four cents a mile. Freight \$5 a ton each way.

Grocery, dry goods and hardware stores were advertised by James Wright (Tunkhannock), Joseph P. Le Clerc and Smith & Osterhout. All carried whisky "in large quantities."

Andrew Jackson was being handled without gloves for having vetoed the measure to recharter the United States Bank. He was accused of being in league with the Wall street shylocks. This superannuated President, as he was called, governed by his kitchen cabinet, had overthrown the main pillar of the constitutional edifice. He had defied the Supreme Court, his act being particularly dangerous, as Georgia disavowed the court and was virtually in a state of rebellion, and South Carolina was determined to nullify the tariff. Jackson was charged with having made an attack on the constitution of the most virulent character—the act of a madman throwing fire-brands amongst combustible matter. Oh, those were stirring times. Here is a striking extract:

"Let the Supreme Court be prostrated and the fiends of rebellion and nullification will ride triumphant through the land, the war cry will be heard from Maine to Georgia—the Union will become a rope of sand, and the States now bound together in the closest bonds of harmony and brotherly love, cemented by self-interest, will soon exhibit the same hostile inveterate spirit that characterised England and Scotland in the days of Bruce and Edward.

"Dissever the Union, we not only lose our national character at home and abroad, but become the objects of foreign intrigue, the victims of foreign diplomacy, and at last, after internal wars and the shedding of our best blood, we shall sink in provinces and dependences of France and England. Are the people prepared for that result?

"Are they determined to become their own executioners?"



Vol. VI

No. 1

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DEVOTED ESPECIALLY TO

The Early History of Wyoming Valley

AND ADJACENT TERRITORY

and

NOTES AND QUERIES

FOR THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WYOMING



EDITED BY F. A. BRADSON

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